The Builder.

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THE majority of men place great dependence on chance. So long as an event is only *probable*, they seem to think it unnecessary to guard against it, if in so doing they must subject themselves to a *positive* inconvenience or expenditure, however slight. Illustrations of this fact, in different walks, will occur to every reader; but they especially offer themselves as connected with sanatory arrangements. A certain state of things may be proved to lead to illness and death; the members of a family living in such a state,—occupying, for example, an ill-drained, ill-ventilated house, may find themselves always out of health, may constantly be forced to say,—"this must arise from the circumstances under which we are living," and yet go on year after year without any effort to effect a change, or to escape from the fate which hangs surely over them. It may *not* be the house after all, they say; if we were *certain*, it would be another thing: we may be better presently: our neighbours are similarly circumstanced, and do not complain; to get a sewer and good drains, and plenty of water, is out of the question; and moving would be a trouble, *et cetera, et cetera:* and so they persuade themselves into the endurance of what will as certainly lessen their enjoyment of life, and weaken their moral as well as physical power, if not hurry them prematurely into the grave, as if they had swallowed a known poisonous drug with that express intention.

Last week, in the ordinary discharge of professional duty, we went over a house in a respectable part of Westminster, which will afford us a case in point. Were it a solitary instance we would name it specifically, without regard to private interests; but unfortunately it is not so, and injury might thus be done to individuals without corresponding advantage to the public. On entering the back parlour a slight but unpleasant odour led to an inquiry, from which we learnt that a cesspool adjoined it, the contents of which were pumped away every week, its size being small. To avoid filling this too quickly, the yard, a small one, was made the receptable of much that was offensive. At times the lower part of the house was unbearable, and in particular weather the occupants had been forced to confine themselves to the one-pair floor. It was scarcely necessary to ask the effect this had on those who lived in the house,—the sickly appearance of several told the story, but only in part. The wife of the person who held the house had died recently, after much sickness; a female lodger in the parlours, within the six years during which she had lived there, had suffered three violent attacks of *typhus fever*, caused wholly, her medical attendant told her, by the bad air, and had narrowly escaped with her life; while the old servant, who was chiefly confined to the back kitchen, assured us that the smell made her sick constantly, and that she had been told by the doctor she would be *killed* if she remained there. And killed she unquestionably may be.

None of the occupants, however, manifested any intention of making a change: as one of them said, they didn't *quite* understand how a smell could produce illness, and thought it just possible it might have occurred if they had been elsewhere, because "illness is what all are subject to!"

Such infatuation, under other circumstances, would scarcely be believed. As we have said already, this house is in a respectable part of Westminster; a wide and airy street, closely adjoining a number of houses occupied by men of wealth and rank, who, let it be remembered, are themselves vitally interested, knowing well that fever is not long in crossing a street! And if such a state of things as we have above described, and for the accuracy of which description in the minutest particular we vouch, is to be found in a good neighbourhood, what must be the condition of other districts of the same city, known to be immeasurably worse?

Facts gathered from all parts of England, shew beyond doubt how much misery and death, and loss to the living may be prevented, and how much the general sum of happiness may be increased, by proper arrangements. And yet, known causes of disease and death are allowed to continue in operation, and the obstinacy of ignorance for a time triumphs over the truthful deductions of science. At a meeting of the town-council of Bristol, last week, it was shewn by Dr. Green and Dr. Kay that the deaths in that city from one remediable cause alone, namely, the accumulation of noxious decomposing matter in the river Frome, which is, in fact, nothing better than an open cesspool, could not be less than from 500 to 600 annually? Who will estimate the suffering endured from sickness, the distress caused by deprivation, and the pecuniary loss to the community, also resulting from the same cause? And yet remedy is delayed.

The mortality of Birkenhead has increased fearfully with the increase of the place. It appears that, whilst the deaths here were, in 1841, one in forty-five, in 1845, one in thirty-six, in 1846 they were one in twenty-eight and a half! Dr. Robinson has recently published a pamphlet on the subject, in which he shows that this increase results from the ill ventilation of the houses of the lower classes, the absence of house-drains, the existence of 2405 cesspools in the township, a want of care in the selection of sites for the foundations of new buildings, the imperfect construction of middens, the overcrowding of lodging-houses and places of sepulture, the too early occupation of newly-built houses, and the want of water. He calculates that there are 330 houses and 57 courts without water, the number of inhabitants in them being 2,437. How often must we write, that

PURE AIR AND PLENTY OF WATER ARE THE TWO THINGS EVERY WHERE NEEDFUL.

A Glasgow paper furnishes a curious instance of the effect of ventilation, which would be laughable if it were not saddening. In a weaving mill near Manchester, where the ventilation was very bad, the proprietor caused a fan to be mounted, and so improved it greatly. What was the result? Why the operatives instead of thanking their employer for his attention to their comfort and health, made a formal complaint to him that the ventilator had *increased their appetites*, and therefore entitled them to a corresponding increase of wages! "By stopping the fan a part of the day," says our authority, "the ventilation and voracity of the establishment were brought to a medium standard, and complaints ceased. The operatives' wages would but just support them—any additional demands by their stomachs could only be answered by draughts upon their backs, which were by no means in a condition to answer them."

Poor things! The fan brought them better health, but they fancied they could not afford the luxury. Their course was as if, being well and enjoying their dinner, they had taken some deleterious compounds to produce sickness, and indispose them for eating.

We look for some advantage from the reports of the various commissioners appointed to inquire into improvement bills proposed by different towns, and which are now in the hands of members of Parliament. Although appointed in each case for a special purpose, much information as to the sanatory condition of towns will probably be obtainable from their reports, and the evidence laid before them, and a considerable impulse be given to the adoption of remedies for existing evils and abuses. In what light some of the corporations may appear seems to us doubtful.

The cost of these inquiries will be very great: we have heard, for example, that at Reading more than 6,000*l.* have been spent; but as they will necessarily shorten the business before Parliament, and prevent useless applications, in the long run, probably, they will lessen expenditure, and facilitate good legislation.

THE NEW MUSEUM OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY, PICCADILLY.

THE mystery which, for a time, hung over the site, between Piccadilly and Jermyn-street, purchased by government; the rumours which went abroad, now that it was for a post-office, and then that it was for a museum; and more recently, when its appropriation was known, the asserted intention of forming shops in the Piccadilly front of the new building; have made it an object of constant inquiry on the part of correspondents, who have also manifested a desire to know what description of edifice would be erected. We are glad, therefore, now to be able to resolve the only unresolved points, by stating, that the building promises to be a handsome structure in the Italian style, highly creditable to Mr. Pennethorne, the architect, and that no part of it will be appropriated to shops.

The public entrance will be in Jermyn-street, and the entrance for the establishment in the Piccadilly front, which will be the principal in an architectural point of view, presenting on the ground-floor a series of large circular-headed windows, very deeply recessed down to the pavement, to give the effect of an arcade, small detached columns and pediments as dressings to the windows above, and a bold cornice and projecting roof, as at the Travellers' and Reform Club-House. A series of ornamental panels will serve to display English and Irish marbles, and lead, as we hope, to their more extensive use in decoration. The door in Jermyn-street will be produced by the electrotype; and in a semicircular opening above it, there will be a sculptured tablet.

The ground floor will comprise an apartment to be called the Marble Hall, to be appropriated in accordance with its name, a lecture theatre about 55 feet square, and beyond that, extending to Piccadilly, apartments for various purposes. The grand staircase will lead from the Marble Hall to a fine apartment above, and again above that to a museum extending over the whole area, and lighted by extensive skylights as well as windows.

The lecture theatre, being in the centre part of the building, is lighted necessarily from the top, and exhibits in this as well as other respects, considerable skill. The upper part of the walls inclosing the skylight of the theatre, appear in a decorated form for a certain height above the floor of the topmost apartment, whence light is given to the theatre below, as it is also by means of an open area, railed, to the lower apartment. When we further say that there are galleries round the walls, it may be seen that the extent of floor for the reception of specimens, models, the mining records, &c., which are to be kept here, will be very great. Mr. Kelk is the builder employed.

SOME NOTICES OF ANCIENT LONDON.

Among the remains of ancient London I am about to notice, will be seen fragments which may come under the following classification, viz., fortified buildings, religious establishments, palatial edifices, charitable asylums, gates, monuments, and domestic residences; yet in most instances the existing fragments of buildings thus classed, will appear so inconsiderable, that I fear I shall, in producing them, remind you of that worthy who carried with him a brick, in order to set forth the appearance of Carthage.

Beginning with the first of the above classification, viz., fortified buildings, I may instance that which is called, par eminence, the Tower, as the chief stronghold appertaining to the ancient city. Yet, according to present appearance, some remaining portions of the wall which formerly surrounded London, should claim precedence in point of antiquity, but other evidence tends, in my opinion, to do more than merely suggest an earlier building, one probably contemporary with the original wall, which has occupied some portion of the site lying within the Tower inclosure. However, as an examination of these evidences would occupy much time, I will pass them over for the present, in order to mention one of the towers, which surround the great keep or White Tower. This is called the Salt Tower, and has been considered the most ancient of the surrounding edifices. It has likewise been named Cæsar's Tower,* but as Julius Cæsar would, by sufficient negative evidence, appear never to have obtained a footing in London, chroniclers of latter days have treated this association with entire contempt. Yet as Rome did certainly produce eleven other Cæsars, and the title of Cæsar was afterwards given to the eldest son of the emperor, I cannot conceive that it requires any inordinate degree of credulity to suppose, that one of them may indeed have stood in the relation of sponsor to such a tower in London founded by Roman hands. That a building so founded stood either upon or near this spot, is evinced, to my thinking, by many signs.

About the distance of a stone's cast from the building I am describing, some remains of London wall formerly connected with the Tower postern still exist. The lower portion of this wall is evidently of Roman workmanship, the masonry being regular, the stones well squared; and over each course of stone there is a course of flat bricks, two deep. Each brick is 1¼ inch in thickness, varying from 17¼ inches to 16¼ inches in length, and from 10 to 12 inches in breadth. The depth of this course of brickwork, including the mortar, is 4½ in. The courses of stone are five stones in each course, and measure 46 inches in depth between each course of brickwork. The space, composed of regular masonry, such as I have described, is about 8 feet above the ground. Over this space is another portion, composed, apparently, of the debris of the original wall; and the remainder of the superstructure (the entire wall being about 28 feet high), comprises a series of coarse rubble, composed of huge blocks of undressed stone, mixed with flints and bits of Roman brick, and finally, a succession of masonry in small squared stones and rubble. We thus perceive an example of the various methods by which this ancient rampart was re-edified at different times, probably none of them later than the period when, in the reign of the fourth Edward, brick was made from the clay of Moorfields for the purpose of replenishing the battered and time-eaten fortification of the cherished city. And finding these evidences based upon a visible Roman foundation, one which brings us so nearly to the Tower itself, even to the postern thereof, I perceive in this fact one motive, among several others, for believing that such was probably the approach to a contemporary stronghold, or citadel, probably the palatinate seat of the Roman governor. I may not here go into other evidences, such as the discovery of the remains of Roman masonry within the Tower walls, of ingots marked with the Roman stamp, and so forth; but I will merely assert, that if such were heedfully collated, they would be found both numerous and salient. It must, however, be here admitted, in moderation of this view, that the Saxon chronicle does certainly fail to make mention of any such edifice as I have alluded to; but surely the river Thames appears to have arisen in unruly floods of yore, and the walls of which I have spoken may have become a tribute to its waters even long ere the Saxon chronicle was framed. But as this is no proper occasion for prolonging an argument of which some might say, that the gist thereof is no other than a setting forth of the history of a place, from the time of its nonentity even to the period when it began to exist, I will now drop such speculations, and will beg of you to return with me in order to note some of the more tangible matters appertaining to the Salt Tower.

* So called in a survey, tem. Henry VIII.

When I sketched it, the 9th of November, 1846, the houses, which constituted a yeoman warder lodging and a canteen, called the Golden-chain, were demolished, and the ancient ballium wall was laid bare. Previous to the destruction of this portion of the wall, I made an examination of it, and found it to be composed of chalk blocks intermixed with flint, and faced with Kentish ragstone. The height of this wall was about 40 feet, and the breadth about 9 feet. Passages in the thickness of the wall are said to have formed a communication between the different mural towers; but I had not an opportunity of observing if any such appearances were visible in this instance. When I suggested the possibility of the ground, occupied by the Salt Tower, having been the site of a Roman building, I had no intention of conveying the notion that any visible portion of the present edifice was referable to such a period. Such evidences could only be hoped for in an investigation of the foundation, and of the lower dungeons, which are now inaccessible. The body of the building is ascribed to the time of William Rufus. The flat abutment appears to be two centuries later; it has originally had a pointed roof, the traces of which may be distinguished from the more recent superstructure; and from the character of the window, it has probably contained a small chapel or oratory.

I will not prolong this notice by any description of the interior of the Salt Tower, but will only mention that it contains some remarkable inscriptions, one of which is a memorial of Hugh Draper, committed in 1560, on suspicion of sorcery and practice against Sir William St. Lowe and his lady. Draper was the keeper of a tavern at Bristol, as well as a professor of judicial astrology. A device representing a sphere with the signs of the Zodiac, denoted by their proper astrological characters, is sculptured on the wall, over which are these lines—

"Hew : Draper : of : Bristow : made : thys :
Spheer : the : 30 : daye : of : Maye : anno 1561.

I will only mention the gate of the so-called Bloody Tower, in order that I may pass through it on my way to the church of St. Peter. One cannot very well approach the church I have mentioned without passing the keep or White Tower, and few could pass it without a wish to examine those portions of its interior which are hidden from vulgar eyes. But he who would do so must be patient and persevering, for the obstacles are great and, worse than great, they are numerous, seeing that the adventurer will be referred from one party to another, each as he descends in the scale of real consequence rising in that by which he may be disposed to estimate himself. Howbeit the dragons and griffins who guard these enchanted portals being passed, it will then be found that every device that could in any wise tend to disturb or utterly scare away the genius loci has prevailed in that place.

The chapel of St. John, one of the choicest examples of Norman architecture this country can boast, is filled with presses, the building having been pressed into the service of the Record-office. And for the safe keeping and guardianship of both chapel and records, a formidable mine of gunpowder is stored in the chamber beneath, ready to disperse the whole into air, should any bold invader presume to desecrate the one, or appropriate and carry away the others.

The chapel of St. Peter ad vincula, which is situated at the north-west angle of the inner ward, appears from existing documents to have occupied that spot in the time of Henry III. It is said to have been rebuilt by Edward I., but retains little or nothing indicative of a period earlier than the architecture of the reign of Henry VIII. I will here only allude to the altar tomb of Sir Richard Cholmondely and the lady Elizabeth, his wife, as a fine work of monumental art, and passing over the numerous illustrious personages who have traversed the brief space between the scaffold and the vaults of this chapel, I will here recal the names of two of those chivalrous men who for "dear honour's sake" staked life and fortune upon the hazard of a forlorn and misguided cause. The rubbings which I set before you are from the coffins of the Lords Balmerino and Kilmarnock, who suffered in the year 1746. These two noblemen evinced a marked difference in the quality of firmness, when it came to the final scene of their disastrous adventure. Of this, and of its effect upon the executioner, I will relate a brief anecdote in the words of Northcote, the painter. "Kilmarnock," said he, "was a nervous man: he trembled, was pale, and betrayed every demonstration of fear at the sight of the terrible apparatus of death. He knelt, laid his head on the block, and it was stricken from his body at a blow. Balmarino now ascended the scaffold; his look was intrepid, his step was firm, and slapping the executioner on the shoulder, with a loud voice and unfaultering tongue, exclaimed, 'You are a brave fellow, and have done your work dexterously. Here is a purse for you, it contains not much—five guineas only, but I am a poor gentleman, it is all I can afford to give. Now, despatch me with equal skill.' Lo! the man was not used to encounter such a great creature; he appeared to be a superior being; the executioner could not stand in his presence, it was too awful for him; the wretch was at once unmanned, he was in a tremor from head to foot, and incapable of doing his duty; he mangled the neck of the brave lord, and as he gave the last feeble stroke, was himself about to give up the ghost." "Hitherto, mark ye," continued Northcote, "he had been the great man, important by virtue of his office; but behold, one so infinitely greater than he had been wont to see, reduced him to his own insignificance; and he who had sent so many out of the world with all the dignity of his calling, was now ready to fall on his knees with awe, and beg forgiveness of the victim he was legally employed to despatch."

I will now lead you through a subterranean passage, which is said to conduct from the Tower to the ancient chapel of St. Michael at Aldgate. This fine relic of antiquity is situated under the house at the south-east corner of Leadenhall-street, hard by Aldgate pump. It is said to be the work of Prior Norman, in the year 1108; this, however, strikes me as rather too early in the 12th century for the style of the building, which, however, displays some marks of the semi-Norman, or transition style. The mouldings of the ribs appear to correspond with some other examples of that style; and the clustered column, which forms the central support, appears of the Norman character, but it is nearly buried by the accumulated soil of centuries. The materials of this building are the Flanders tile, mixed with squared chalk and Caen stone, of which latter the ribs are constructed; the bosses remain perfect, and contain roses and grotesque heads. There are at the north and south extremities of this chapel an appearance of passages, such as I have already alluded to; one of these is said to run to Duke's-place, and the other to the Tower. I attempted to enter the former, but found it choked with rubbish. I will not take upon me to vouch for the precise direction or extent of these passages; but as the work of clearing them, as well as the body of the building, from the loose soil which lies there to the depth of several feet, would be a thing of no great trouble or expense, I venture to suggest the idea of such a performance as worthy of consideration; and as a means of approach from the street has existed, this relic of antiquity might easily be rendered accessible, and by a little expenditure might be made to appear nearly as perfect as in its original integrity.

The Fishmongers' Almshouses, or St. Peter's hospital, will soon be spoken of in the past tense. It appears, that the value of the ground these buildings occupy has tempted the ancient company to which they appertain, to remove the asylum, for the purpose of laying out the ground more profitably in building sites. The present appearance is that of a characteristic building of the time of James I. The hall appertaining to it is not large, but it contains some good features, and a fireplace

worthy of notice. In the words of Stowe: "These fishmongers have been jolly citizens, and six maiors of their company in 24 yeeres; to wit, Walter Turke, 1350. John Lofkin, 1359. John Wroth, 1361. John Pechie, 1362. Simon Morden, 1369. and William Walworth, 1374.

I will, in the next place, point out a few of London's ancient signs, or street monuments, of which many exist unnoticed amid the throng and bustle of the great city. The representation at the top is that of the city arms as they appear at Queenhithe, or Edreds hithe or harbour. This, from its original name, appears to have retained its use since the Saxon time. Its dues constituted a portion in the dowry of the queens of England, from the time of Henry III., who compelled the ships of the Cinque Ports "to bring their corn here, and to no other place."

Adjoining the Old Temple, the first residence of the Knights Templars, without Holborn-bars, was the inn of the Bishop of Lincoln, which has given its title to the famous seat of law near at hand. This inn was conveyed in fee to the Earl of Southampton, who was lord chancellor to Edward VI. Here died, in 1667, Thomas, last Earl of Southampton. He served Charles I., and was lord treasurer in the early part of the reign of Charles II. The ill-fated Lord Russell inherited Southampton House by his marriage with the daughter of this nobleman. It was in passing this house, the scene of his domestic happiness, on his way to the scaffold in Lincoln's-inn-fields, that the fortitude of the martyr for a moment forsook him, but overmastering his emotion he said, "The bitterness of death is now passed." It is from this house that some of Lady Rachel Russell's celebrated letters are dated. A former entrance of the chapel of Southampton House, appears to correspond with the moulding of the flat timbered roof, which is of the time of Henry VII. This part of the edifice retains its original proportions, except that its height is divided by a modern floor. Its length is about 40 feet by about 20. It is now used by a whip maker as his warehouse. Other portions of Southampton House have been incorporated with the surrounding dwellings, one of which contains a beautiful Elizabethan staircase. Old mouldings and panelling appear likewise in Mill's Tavern, Southampton-buildings, which house seems to have been constructed upon a portion of the ancient mansion.

The last of the bulk shops adjoining Temple Bar succumbed to the spirit of improvement in the month of April, 1846, giving a finishing blow to the operations of Alderman Pickett, who about the beginning of the present century greatly despoiled the antiquity and associations of this part of the Strand, by overthrowing the beetling fabrics of Butcher-row, celebrated as the residence of ambassadors and other eminent personages. The tenement had little to recommend it in the way of ornament, and was only noticeable from its exhibiting a solitary specimen of the open projecting stalls or bulks, which constituted the better kind of shops two centuries ago, those of an humbler description being no other than movable stands, such as now serve for the vendor of apples, fish, and vegetables, at the edge of the kerb-stone. The bulk, however, was a substantial fixture, projecting well into the street, and protected from the weather by a goodly penthouse of oak and plumber's work.

Over and above its connection with the thrifty dealings of a primitive time, the bulk may be said to have obtained a degree of poetical association, from the practice of erratic authors of the last century, who were ofttimes fain to appropriate those shelves for the purpose of a dormitory. The poor scholar who, having scribbled in a tavern his epigram, his satire, his eulogium, or even his broadside, in order to provide a scanty meal; or at the emporium of the bookseller, had plied the work of translation, or toiled through the stilted periods of an up-hill moral essay, had afterwards frequent occasion to realise the apothegm, that misery brings a man acquainted with strange bedfellows, when he thus bestowed himself for the night along with the homeless wretch, or some overtaken roysterer from the tavern, to dream or watch the stars till daybreak.

It is said of that manifest genius, though extravagant, Nat. Lee, that he died, in one sense, not inglorious, upon a bulk in Clare-market, where he had sunk, overthrown by Bacchus, on his way from the Bear and Harrow, in Butcher-row, to his lodgings in Duke-street. Such was likewise the frequent couch of the gifted but ungoverned poet Savage, during his pitiful night wanderings. And it is related of Derrick, an inferior bard, that having been discovered by Floyd, another poor author in both senses of the word, and being suddenly awakened, he started up, exclaiming, "My dear Floyd, I am sorry to see you in this destitute state; will you go home with me to my lodging?"

The adjoining city gate, the last of the city portals now remaining, is comparatively a modern structure, and may be said to have sprung from an humble origin, its immediate predecessor having been no other than a barrier of timber, called the posts. Yet time has indented some toothmarks in the friable Portland stone, of which the fabric is composed; and a London alderman, by widening one of the side passages, without much reference to its architectural integrity, has added to its decayed appearance. Many, however, have been the stirring scenes which this edifice has witnessed during the period (175 years) of its existence.

The barriers which preceded it were opened for the triumphal return of the second Charles, on the 29th of May, 1660. And just eighty-six years after followed a stern and rueful contrast, in the event which placed over this portal the heads of devoted men, who had forfeited their lives in a desperate effort to restore the fortunes of the ill-starred house of Stewart: a solemn and eventful epic, whereof Whitehall may be said to have witnessed the beginning, and the spot I have just described, the middle and the end.

The northern bank of the Thames exhibited in old time a series of stately edifices, extending from the Tower to Westminster, the seats of many who were most renowned and powerful in their day, and whose names are yet familiar in connection with the great events wherein they bore their part.

Among such names that of "John of Gaunt, time-honoured Lancaster" is conspicuous. Of his palace, called the Savoy, a small fragment still exists within the dingy precincts of a coal-wharf, whence

> "Forth issuing from steep lanes, the colliers' steeds
> Drag the black load; another cart succeeds;
> Team follows team, crowds heaped on crowds appear,
> And wait impatient till the road grow clear."

Simon de Montford, the great Earl of Leicester, had a residence on this site. It was given by Henry III. to Peter of Savoy, who founded the place so called, and bestowed it on the fraternity of Montjoy. Queen Eleanor purchased this building, and gave it to her son Edmund, Earl of Leicester; after which it was rebuilt in a magnificent manner. Here King John of France was held a prisoner, and sometime after his release, returning to this country to apologise for the defection of his son, whom he had left as hostage, he died in the Savoy. The place was destroyed by Wat Tyler in 1381, after which it was rebuilt by Henry VII. Latterly, it became a prison for deserters. Its present destination is that of a warehouse for the sauces and condiments of Mr. Burgess, a celebrated dealer in such wares, in the Strand.

I will lastly introduce to you the Bowl Brewery, an old building in St. Giles's, lately demolished, in order to make mention of a custom which has happily long fallen into disuse. It was here that St. Giles' bowl was handed to criminals as their last draught, on their way to execution at Tyburn. Previously, however, the gibbet stood at the Elms in St. Giles, having been removed thither from Smithfield in the year 1413. The fatal tree was placed in the north corner of the hospital garden. The hospital of St. Giles was founded in the year 1117, by Matilda, queen of Henry I., out of the dues of Queen Hythe, or Edreds Hythe, for the relief of lepers. In 1354 Edward III. granted the hospital to the master and brethren of the order of Burton St. Lazar of Jerusalem, in Leicestershire, by which means it became a cell to that order, and continued so until the general suppression. It was at the door of this establishment that condemned criminals are said to have received the refreshment I have mentioned. The practice was afterwards continued at an hostel which appears to have been built on the site of the old monastic house; of this, I believe, the Bowl Brewhouse was until lately the representative. The bowl itself is said to be still in existence, but I have not yet been able to discover the proprietor.

J. Wykeham Archer.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

At a meeting of this Institute, held on the 22nd, Mr. C. Fowler in the chair, Messrs. H. B. Browning, E. Browning, and G. Snell were elected associates. A letter from Dr. Bromet was read, accompanying some specimens of silicated chalk, prepared by a chemist of Lille. The chalk was merely dipped into an aqueous solution, formed by heat, of one part of washed sand and three parts of the American potash of commerce; by means of which, as was asserted, a double decomposition is effected, and the chalk rendered hard and durable. The discoverer proposed applying it superficially also to finished structures. He considered it peculiarly applicable to delicate mouldings, which might be worked in very soft stone, and then hardened by his mixture. The expense was not great. Mr. Donaldson mentioned, that advantage had been found in dipping rag-stone, not perfectly indurated, into lime-water.

Several works, recently added to the library, were referred to members to examine, and draw out a condensed view of their contents for an ensuing meeting. As part of the same course of proceeding, Mr. Donaldson reviewed at some length the recent work on Lycia, by Lieut. Spratt, the Rev. Mr. Daniell, and Professor Forbes, which contains an account of extraordinary ruins, until now unknown. Mr. D. referred principally to Termessus, where there are ruins of surprising magnitude, comprising an acropolis, agora, and necropolis.

Mr. Godwin pointed out, that in the first volume of the work in question (p. 226), copies were given of twenty-eight masons' marks found on the stones of an old Turkish Khan, the greater part of which were precisely similar to others found in England, France, and Germany, and figured by him in the *Archæologia*; a further instance of the prevalence of the same series of marks.

Mr. James Bell then read his essay "On the Adaptation and Modification of the Orders of the Greeks by the Romans and Moderns," to which a medal of merit had been awarded.

The writer said,—The order, in Grecian architecture, constituted the chief feature, and contributed its character and proportions to the entire edifice. The column, on the introduction of the arch by the Romans, lost its importance, and together with that, its extreme delicacy of finish and proportion; in place of which luxuriance and richness were substituted, so as to harmonise more thoroughly with the sentiments of the Roman people. This change gradually led to a complete debasement of the style; the arch, after the Constantine era, gaining in importance more and more until the pointed style arose from the ruins of the classic. On the revival, the Italians by the study of the antique endeavoured to restore it to its primitive purity, and many of them were eminently successful in the attainment of their object, although the painter-architects introduced many flagrant abuses both in composition and detail.

In the north of Europe, where the pointed style had obtained a firmer footing, the change was produced by the grafting of classic details on a Gothic outline, constituting the Elizabethan and Renaissance; and, at the same time, an increased intercourse with Italy led to the adoption of the new style in all its purity, for much of which we are indebted to Sir Christopher Wren, in whose school it was thoroughly naturalized.

Since the middle of last century, the study of Grecian remains has led to the further purification of the Roman, together with a due appreciation of some of those delicacies of form and proportion which were previously either misunderstood or altogether overlooked, although the feeling of the age, so far as regards detail, tends rather to imitation than to modification. To the Germans, however, was due the merit of the most complete appreci-

tion of the works of the Greeks,—a result which might have been anticipated from the analogy between the habits of thought and feeling, and even language, which may be traced between the two nations.

The honorary secretary, Mr. Bailey, announced the following as the subjects for essays for medals of the Institute:—

1. On the application of sculpture to architecture, and the principles which should regulate its introduction in buildings generally, with regard to beauty of embellishment and propriety of style and character.

2. On the theory and practice of constructing chimneys, particularly in dwelling-houses, with regard to the formation of fire-places, flues, and all the parts connected therewith, in order to insure sufficient draught and exit of the smoke.

The essay to contain detailed statements of experiments and practical results.

The Soane medallion will be given for the best design for a building, to contain public baths, on a comprehensive scale, with all suitable accessories, combining the magnificence of the ancients with the usages and purposes of modern times.

Respecting the royal medal, the secretary said, no communication could be made at present, as the council had not yet come to a decision with respect to its appropriation.

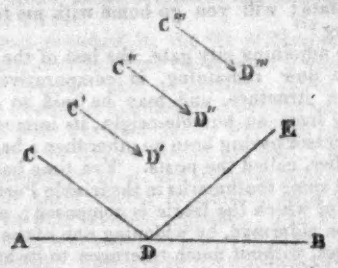
We have reason to believe that the council have fallen into the view we took of the subject last year,* and that this medal will be made an object of ambition open to the whole profession.

REFLECTION OF SOUND.

In the very interesting and suggestive paper read at the Royal Institute of British Architects, "On the Construction of Buildings with reference to the Laws of Sound," Mr. Scott Russell stated, that it had hitherto been taken for granted that sound was reflected under the same laws as light, or billiard balls from the cushions of the billiard-table; he had, however, by sundry experiments, arrived at the conclusion that sound was promulgated through the air in waves, in a manner analogous to that in which waves of the first order moved in water: upon these water-waves he had several times experimented, and found that the theory of reflection above-mentioned was in this respect but partially correct, inasmuch as reflection only occurred when the angle of incidence was greater than 45° degrees; for when it was less than 45° the wave of water was no longer reflected, but assumed a rolling motion along the plane against which it was projected. This, he said, was from analogy, applicable to sound, although such a theory was not philosophically acknowledged. He, moreover, added, that although such was undoubtedly proved, by the results of his experiments, to be the case, yet he could not offer any explanation of the cause.

Now, it appears to me, that the wave of sound cannot be considered analogous to a ray of light which strikes upon a plane in one point, and is reflected from the same point in the well-known manner; nor as the billiard ball, which impinges the cushion at a certain point, and is immediately reflected from it as the ray of light from the plane; but it must be considered as a force which may be described as of continuous progression, inasmuch as the wave is not a solid body, the whole of whose molecules would be acted upon simultaneously, but, on the contrary, it is a body, part of which may be already reflected whilst the rest is still in a progressive motion.

Now, if AB represent a plane, and CD the direction of a billiard ball, impinging at D, the ball would be reflected in DE; *i.e.* ADC = BDE, and proceed in a direct line from the point D, with a certain impetus or force, which I will call F. If, however, we suppose that whilst the force F, *i.e.* the ball, is proceeding in the direction DE, it is subjected to the influence of several other forces, represented by f, f', f'', acting respectively in the directions C′D′, C″D″, C‴D‴, as is obviously the case in the continuously progressing wave, these forces, f, f', f'', must undoubtedly have some effect upon the direction of the reflected force F; and let us notice *how* these forces will affect it, and we shall find Mr. S. Russell's deduction perfectly correct; for it is obvious, that when CDA ⩾ 45°, then CDE ∠ 90°, and the forces f, f', f'', acting upon the direction of the force F at such an angle, would increase the intensity of the force F in an outward direction, *i.e.* from the plane (similarly to a force acting obliquely on the plane of a wedge, or a head-wind upon the sails of a ship), and the wave of sound would consequently be reflected; but if, on the other hand, we have CDA ∠ 45°, then CDE ⩾ 90°, and the forces f, f', f'', will evidently impel the force, F, inwards from the



direction DE; that is, prevent the sound being reflected. What has been shewn for the force F might be shewn for the forces of each and all of the molecules of the progressing wave, and will lead to the conclusion, that so long as ADC (or angle of incidence) ⩾ 45°, the posterior position of the wave in progression will drive the anterior portion, already reflected, away from the plane it strikes; and that when, on the contrary ADC (or angle of incidence) ∠ 45°, the portion of the wave in progression will constantly impel the part of the wave reflected towards the plane, and cause the result described by Mr. S. Russell.

In reference to echoes, it may be interesting to mention, that in Woodstock Park there is an echo which at night will repeat twenty syllables very distinctly; there is also said to be an echo near Glasgow, which will thrice return a tune played on a trumpet.

ηχέω.

ON BEAUTY—THE BEAUTIFUL.

[PARAPHRASED FROM WINCKELMANN.]

"Beauty may be reduced to certain fundamental principles, but not fathomed by any especial explanation. Generally it is said, that it consists in the mutual coincidence of any being with its scope, the parts with each other and the whole.—Every one, therefore, will acknowledge, that the cause of beauty, which may be considered as identical with perfection—is not to be sought *for without* beauty (*ausser der Schönheit*), as it is to be found in all things created. Conceding this, we have yet to premise, that 'THE HIGHEST BEAUTY IS ALONE IN GOD.'"—*Winckelmann.* "History of Ancient Art." 1763, iv., 5, 6.

On reflecting on the purport of these ideas and words, and all the associations connected with them—we may again exclaim, how beautiful! All, whatever gave us joy and pleasure, and elation and edification, comes within their category, which comprises the whole sun-side of human existence. But we are compelled by our scope—and candidly confess, by the vastness of the subject—to contain ourselves within certain limits. *Beauty—the beautiful!* We do not intend—wish not, to enter on an inquiry, why a sunrise is beautiful in nature, or why Schiller exclaimed on the infuriated waters of the Elbe during a gale, "Beautiful, beautiful!" Aside all this beauty and grandeur of nature, lies the beautiful in art—the beautiful made by man's exertions, at man's hand; and it is not in vain, that genius is called creative, as it puts itself thus beside and akin to a power, even surpassing his conception. But art-beauty (*die* Kunst-Schöne), again, is of a multifarious kind, most of which also, we must lay aside—beauty of diction, graphic composition, the sweetness of tones; even that art, which, on a piece of canvass can make our eyes perceive a vastness of objects, even dive into perspectives which do not exist—save in our mind. It is on the art-piling up of materials for *structural* purposes—and the moulding of substances into a more or less nature-shape (sculpture), that we may dilate in the present place. Neither shall we grind over what has been (a thousand times) said historically and *objectionally* on these subjects, but ask at once: "What is beautiful in art—what do we call beautiful in art?" What, however, art itself is, must be first adverted to. And thus we say, that although *imagination* is highly extolled by our kind, and every thing wondersome or strange ascribed to it—yet it is to be borne in mind, that its province, its scope, is not an *absolute*, independent or *autochtonic* one, cannot be so, as nothing is independent in nature (the world)—but *nature* herself. Thus art has its basis in nature; it can not issue from it, nor transgress it—perhaps, hardly ever surpass it. But there is no *emulation* with or about nature—*can* not be!

If we consider things existing (nature), we shall find amongst its numberless laws, one or two, which we shall advert to here—as being exceedingly comprehensive and far-reaching. Nature, then, *first* impells every existing thing to push its existence (being) to the very highest degree of—inward and outward, which are synonymous—perfection. And *second*, nature accomplishes all her aims by most concise and well-managed means. As we intend to begin with the beautiful in architecture, we shall speak of the latter law first. But we have to repeat—that architecture (like any other art-branch) is nothing absolute, independent, or autochtonic; it took its rise, historically and didactically, from nature, and by its rules it must abide. What is the column, the capital, the architrave—the arch? Why—they are all fore-typed (foreshadowed) in nature; every one of them. Look at the ruins at *Debut* and *Gartas* in Nubia, as represented in Gau's splendid work—monuments coeval with, if not anterior to the oldest Egyptian temples. What are the capitals of these columns—but the very representation of those palms, which even now grow in the immediate neighbourhood? There they are—the rudiments of the petioli of their leaves, as they appear in any adult tree. But can a palm tree be beautiful? Certainly it can—*it is*. But when? Will, or can we, even call such a tree beautiful, if it is stunted and stinted in its growth, ventricose or contracted at any of it parts, leafless, and so on? Any of these forms and qualities would encroach (sin), against either or both of the above laws of nature. In fact, the (absolute or necessary) form of a palm tree, or any other tree, may be constructed mathematically, if a few data be given. The highest or main aim of the palm is to bear its spike of flowers or fruits,—these are surrounded by leaves, required for the whole vegetative process of the plant. And now we call—must call, that palm beautiful, where all these organic processes (or rather their *external* typic exponents) are pushed to the highest degree of perfection, with the least amount of means and matter. And the same is the column, of which we say, *first*, that it is then beautiful, if it *correspond* with its prototype, whence it sprung,—could not *but* derive its form from. We shall transgress now to another analogous point, which will make our ideas centre and combine. As it is the destination of the trunk to bear *something*—leaves, flowers, and fruit—columns *also* have to bear something. And here, then, the beautiful in the architrave is *given*. There is a certain quiet, repose, rest in every thing perfect, beautiful, which imparts itself to the mind of the beholder; as quiet in mind-emotion is not excluding permeation and movement, but merely stagnation, languor. Hence, the beauty of a porch or colonnade will consist in the proper distribution (distance) of the columns, and in their (mathematical—nature-) shape compared with the architrave or roof they have to *bear*. *We* do not doubt, that if all this be mathematically true, the structure will be beautiful; but, even if *this* be not *conceded*, any one will agree, that if the proportions of the single columns, in relation to architrave and the whole scope of the structure (its plan and *aim*), be not nature-correct, the thing will, and can never be beautiful. Goethe says, that "it is by the horizontal line that we are human being,"—can alone be human beings. He is right. Civilization, at least, begins with it. But we have to consider that *this* line (like any perfect mathematical figure), is also the most durable in construction, as are the arc and all arcoides.

Having thus *hastily* (we would almost say feebly) dispatched the structural part of the beautiful, we shall transgress to the *causation* of the beautiful in the human form, which, after all, may throw some further light on even our former statement. *The human form!*—We *northerns* can *know* nothing of human form; and this is mystically the reason why we can have no (fine) human form before us;

* Vol. IV., p. 325.

muffled up, as we ever are obliged to be, in sacks of wool and cotton. If our social condition will ever allow us to see (at least) male human form—in public games and festivities, then we shall be near *possessing* it. And here then, we have, unconsciously, struck at all the causation of human form-beauty. Because, our readers perceive, that *that* is called human form-beauty, which is adapted to all the evolvings and evolutions of the human frame. Consider a beauteous young female's hand—neither callified by over-labour, nor bloated or inflated by effeminacy or luxury. Every line wavy, flowing; what sweet solidity in the flesh, the cellular tissue! What capricious and determined form of every finger, every joint! And what of this hand? It will not be, and is not appropriate for one who has to saw the whole day in dogged assiduity and perseverance; nor will such a hand appertain to the musician, practising twelve or fifteen hours a day on piano or harp; nor to any similar one. But it will belong to the *woman*, who is doing all these things in their alternate, nature-ordained succession and sequel—can do them at least. And so it is with any other part of the human body. An English prize-fighter will never be a pattern of human form-beauty; because in him the bull-dog faculties and a horse's power have been nurtured—developed. The athlete of olden times was, after all, the *better man*, until we come to the Apollo of Belvidere, the pattern of every thing serious, manly, proud, strengthfull, energetic. But all the form-beauty of any limb or the whole frame, is also the pattern for the elucidation of the physiologist, the anatomist. If the latter had to construct theoretically and *secundum artem*, a limb, a body, perfect in all its scopes and relations—appropriate for any exertion, or action, or function of the human kind; they would not, could not shape it differently from what the great masters of marble have made them.

This would lead us then—in architecture, to the compasses, the square, the rule, the logarithm, the equation; in sculpture, to the scalpel, the saw, the sonde; digestion, absorption, &c. Nature uses them all—aye, most accurately and minutely, but they do not appear outwardly. Nature may have studied (brooded over) them once, but has now forgotten them, laid them aside. And the same instinctiveness, unconsciousness, pervades the man of genius. Do our readers believe, that Bramante or Raffaelle were surrounded by an array of mathematical instruments and books, when they threw down the main, grand features of St. Peter's temple? Do our readers believe, that Michael Angelo or Titian fumbled about bones and muscles, and tendons, in projecting their grand figures of human form? None of them surely did, although there might have been plenty of it at any other given period. Genius does not disdain study—but, in creating, does not require it. And thus we have arrived at another criterion of the beautiful—that it is *innate* in genius. Let any geometer and mathematician examine the Parthenon or the beauteous temples of Pæstum, with all his levels and squares, and rules; he will find them correct, every part adequate and commensurate to its purpose. So "a whole wilderness of" surgeons and anatomists may probe, and dissect, and analyse the Venus of Medicis, the Torso — or even the canvass-figures of a Raffaelle, Titian, Guido, &c. They will find every line of elevation and depression, and swelling and subsiding of muscles, correct; the bone, the sinew, the artery underneath indicated to a nicety. But by this knowledge *alone*, such works could never have been produced.

Finding, therefore, that beauty is the perfect *concordance*, coincidence of all the parts of a *whole* for a certain scope and purpose, superfused by that *idealization*, which every perfection carries with it; we conclude by repeating with Winckelmann—

"THE HIGHEST BEAUTY IS ALONE IN GOD."

DESTRUCTION OF CITY CHURCHES.—It is reported in the city, that the church of St. Benet, Gracechurch-street, is shortly to be removed, and that many others will, ere long, share the same fate. The churches of London are amongst the most valuable works which the country possesses, and we deplore the removal of any of them.

WOLSEY'S GATE, IPSWICH.

THIS gateway is the only remaining portion of the college which Cardinal Wolsey founded in his native town, Ipswich. It is generally supposed that it was merely an outlet from an inferior part of the building, for when we consider the desire which the Cardinal possessed for displaying his wealth and grandeur, it is improbable that he would have erected so small an entrance to a college, which we have satisfactory proof was of any thing but diminutive dimensions. We find the dean, *Willyam Capon*, the first and last of the college, writing to Wolsey in the following manner:—"Also we have receyved of Mr. Dawndy clxxj. tonnes of Cane stone, and within a fortenyght next after Mighelmas now next commyng, we shall have oon c. tonnes more, so that your workemen shall not be un occupyed for wante of stone. And the said Mr. Dawndy hath promised to me that before East next commyng we shall have redy M tonnes of the said Cane stone." Thus we see that there is good authority for 1,300 tons of Caen stone being used in the building.

The gateway in question is entirely built of brick, which gives more weight to the belief that this was not the principal entrance; as, in an edifice containing so much stone, it is more than probable that the Cardinal (who is well known to have had a thorough knowledge of architecture) would have used the same material for the main outlet.

The gateway was originally more ornamented than we see it at present, as each of the side piers was crowned with a pinnacle; and a stone, bearing a commemorative inscription, has been taken away, and placed in Christ Church College, Oxford.

Although much pains have been taken to discover the style and size of the College, as yet no satisfactory clue has been obtained whereby we might judge of its appearance; perhaps, however, the new Archæological Society lately established in Ipswich may, by and bye, turn up something, which as yet has escaped the hands of the antiquary, should they give their attention to the subject. The first stone was laid on the 15th of June, 1528, by John Longland, Bishop of Lincoln; and we may safely suppose that this gateway was erected either in this or the two following years, for the college was entirely completed before Wolsey's death, in 1530. It is now in rather a leaning position, but at present no danger of its falling is contemplated. However, it is to be hoped that the only remaining monument that Ipswich possesses of the greatest man that the town ever produced will be properly protected, and not suffered to fall into decay.

It is to be regretted that there has been lately inserted, in lieu of a fitting gate, one presenting a fine specimen of carpenter's gothic! Such is the low ebb of architectural taste in Ipswich at the present time.

R. M. P.

THE MORGAN TESTIMONIAL COMPETITION.

TREATMENT OF ARTISTS.

THE following circumstances which have recently come to our knowledge call for inquiry. In consequence of the advertisement requesting artists to send in designs for a testimonial to Sir Charles Morgan, Mr. Calder Marshall, the sculptor, was led to apply for the particulars to the honorary secretary, Mr. Hellicar, of Newport, and having obtained them, they appeared so far satisfactory, that he was at the pains to make a careful model, after a journey to the spot, and to deliver it to him. After some time had elapsed, he accidentally learnt that an artist had been appointed to execute the statue; and not having received back his design, applied to the secretary for it. Of this application, no notice was taken, and it was not until after he had a second time written, that it was returned. Upon opening the case, the artist discovered that *it had never been unpacked;* and immediately sent a letter to the secretary, declaring that this was the fact, and calling upon him for an explanation.

His answer was, "I beg to say in reply to your note of the 18th, that you entertain a very erroneous impression respecting your model."

This equivocal reply did not satisfy Mr. Marshall, and he wrote again calling for further explanation, but has received no answer.

The model was unpacked by the person who packed it, and in presence of individuals who were looking on while it was put in the case, and all declared that it had not been touched. From the peculiar manner in which it was packed, they say it is an absolute impossibility it could have been taken out of the box without their knowledge.

IMPROVEMENT OF LEICESTER SQUARE.

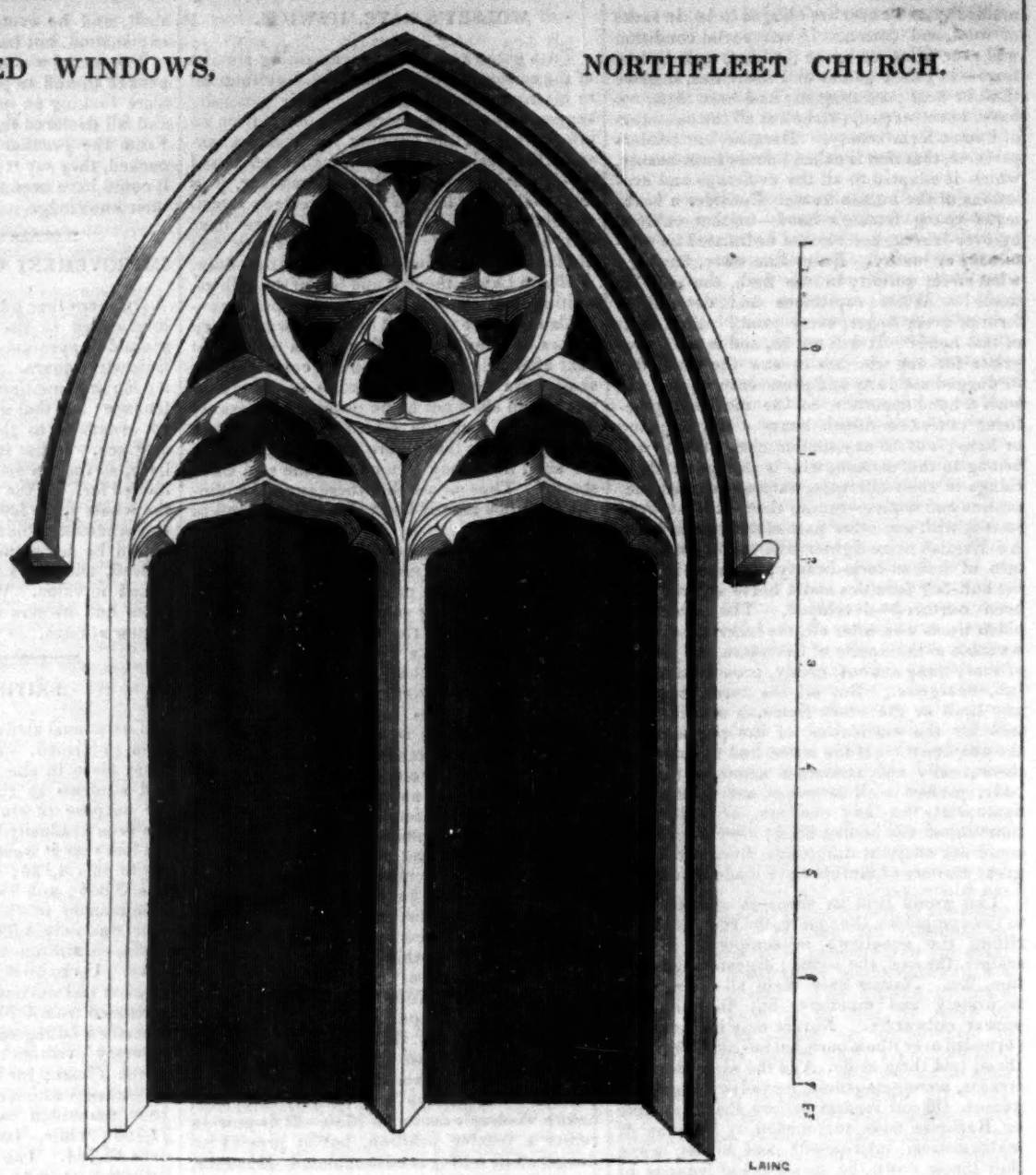
ON more than one occasion our attention has been called to the neglected state and deplorable appearance of the inclosed part of Leicester-square. No persons appear to enter it; no one manifests any interest in its maintenance; and that which might and ought to be an ornament to the metropolis is positively a disgrace. It has lately changed hands we believe, so that an improvement may perhaps be looked for. If the iron-railing were removed, the whole space levelled and paved, and one or two ornamental fountains introduced, the public would be benefitted, the neighbourhood improved, and the houses in the square greatly raised in value. We suggest to the inhabitants and owners to take some steps in the matter at once.

BRITISH MUSEUM.

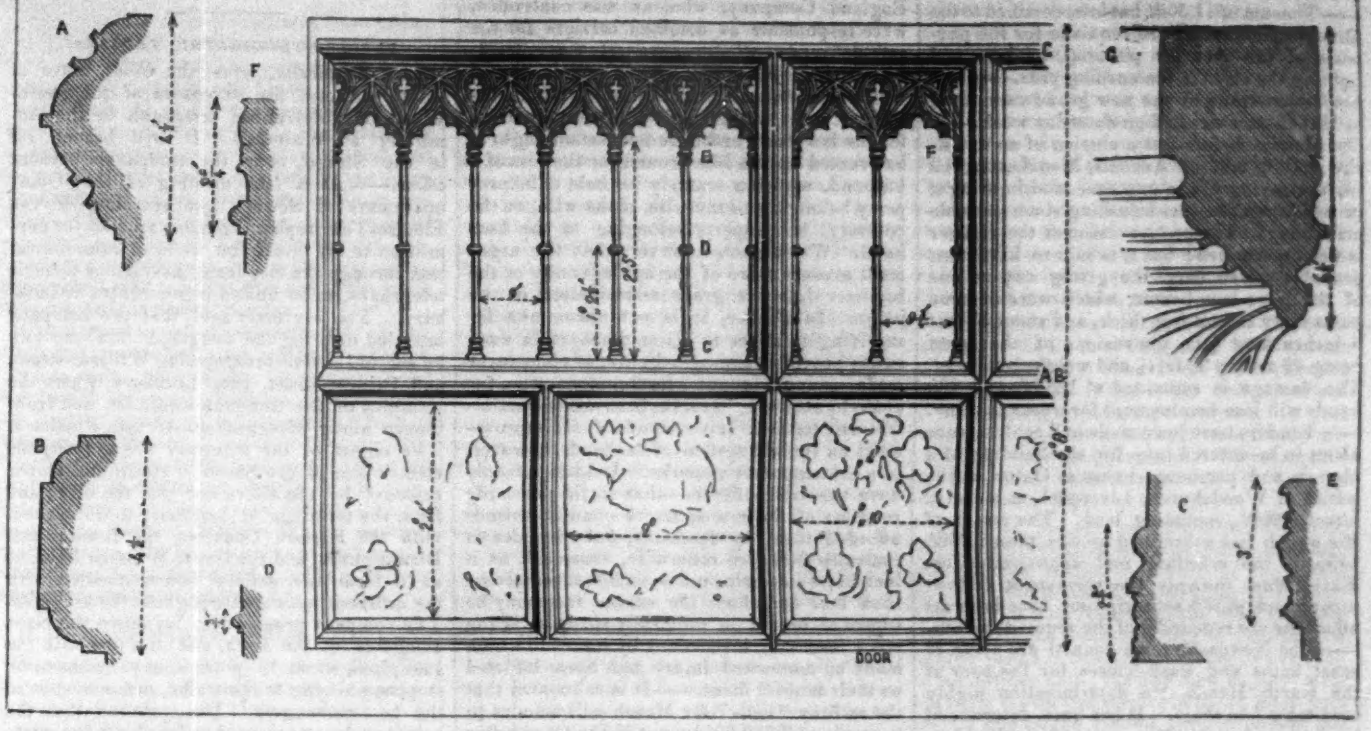
THE annual statistics and accounts have just been published. A remarkable decline has taken place in the number of visits by artists and students to the sculpture galleries 'for the purpose of study.' In fact the number has been gradually diminishing for years past, but last year it was smaller than ever, amounting to only 4,124; while, in 1840, the number was 6,354; and even in 1844 it was 5,436. The number of visits to the print room last year was only 4,390; while, in 1844, it was 8,998,—a still more rapid and remarkable decline. Up to 1844, however, in this case, the number had not declined, but, on the contrary, increased from 6,717 in 1840. There is also a decided falling off in the number of purely 'literary' visitors to the library, as observed by the *Times*; for it appears that the number of students who ransacked the book-shelves in 1840 amounted to 67,542, and in 1842 to 71,706; while, last year, the number was only 66,784. The fact that the catalogue is little else than 'a sealed book,' if there can be said to be a catalogue at all, may in part account for the rapid exhaustion of the ransackers, whose waste of time, in ransacking the catalogue itself, must be ever on the increase, as the more accessible titles become exhausted. The number of printed books registered and stamped, according to the secretary's return for last year, amounted to 30,550, exclusive of 5,117 Chinese volumes. The most valuable acquisitions in the department of antiquities (210 in all besides coins, &c.) were the Boudroom marbles, a marble bust of Apollo, a sarcophagus from Beyrout, a collection of bronzes and terracottas chiefly from Basilicata; of Babylonian cylinders and oriental engraved stones; and of bronze, iron, and gold Anglo-Roman antiquities from Stanwick; several sepulchral vases, 1,559 coins, and 52 medals, &c. &c. The expenditure of the whole establishment in course of last year amounted to £45,911, of which sum £18,129 were for purchases and acquisitions; £19,470 for salaries; £5,507 for bookbinding, &c. The estimated charge for the ensuing year is £50,666. The number of visitors to the general collections has vastly increased since 1841, when it was 319,374; the number last year being 750,601, and in the year previous 685,614.

OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting, held on the 10th, the Rev. the President in the chair,—Mr. Freeman read the report of the committee, which alluded chiefly to the publications of the Society, and the instructions which had been recently issued to the corresponding secretaries; and a lecture was then delivered by the Rev. William Sewell, on "the application of certain principles of Greek philosophy to the study of architecture," treating chiefly of the application of the Aristotelian philosophy.

DECORATED WINDOWS, NORTHFLEET CHURCH.



DECORATED SCREEN IN LEAKE CHURCH.



NORTHFLEET CHURCH, KENT.

A pleasant village is Northfleet, and many pleasant hours have we spent there. Although so close to Gravesend, that large tea-garden by the water's side—if we may so speak—it still retains its rural aspect and ancient quiet. The old church, dedicated to St. Botolph, stands on the north side of the village, and, to those who know how to observe, will afford interesting matter for contemplation. It is a spacious building consisting of nave with side aisles, a large chancel, and a massive square tower at the west end. The latter is a modern addition, erected, according to Hasted, in 1717. A portion of the nave at the west end is screened off, as an ambulatory. The nave has an open timber roof, and the chancel a boarded ceiling. There are remains of piscina and sedilia on the south side of the chancel, and an early decorated rood-screen, dividing the latter from the nave, of which screen there is an illustration in Parker's Glossary. The windows in the chancel are of the early decorated period (beginning of the 14th century) of good design. As we are often asked by our country readers for available examples of windows, we have selected two from this church for illustration.

The first is from the south side of the chancel; the second, shewing only the head of the window, is from the east end of the south aisle. A is a plan of the jamb, which is the same in both cases.

Scattered about in the pavement, the visitor will find many of the old tiles, and a few loose brasses worthy of examination. He will notice, too, the parish chest, bound with iron, and observe some well-sculptured drapery in a monument dated 1703.

Competitions.—Designs are wanted for a building suitable for an athenæum and mechanic's institute at Sheffield, with warming and ventilating apparatus, gymnasia, &c. and coffee-room, news-room, library, &c. &c. The chosen architect to carry out his own designs.—Plans also are wanted for alms-houses to be erected by the pawnbrokers' charitable institution at West Ham. No premium or payment is offered or promised for these.

Improvement of Towns.—A bill for consolidating in one Act certain provisions usually inserted in Acts for paving, draining, cleansing, lighting, and improving towns, has just been read a first time in the House of Commons. It is a sort of model bill for future private Acts for such purposes.

WOODEN DECORATED SCREEN IN LEAKE CHURCH, YORKSHIRE.

The study of the earlier examples of ecclesiastical wood-work is becoming daily more necessary, in consequence of the vast number of churches erecting in the early English and decorated styles, in which the chaste effect so desirable is frequently marred by florid wood-work.* Several decorated screens have been published, but I believe the one given above has not hitherto been noticed. It separates the north chantry in Leake Church, from the nave and north aisle, and though much of it has disappeared, it is still a great ornament to the church, retaining its ancient paint in tolerable perfection. The mullions, shafts, and tracery are painted with green and vermillion, the panels with birds, flowers, and fanciful foiled ornaments. There is another peculiar feature in this screen, which very rarely occurs in florid work, I mean in the tracery, which is moulded on both sides of the screen, the florid screens having the interior quite plain. It is to be regretted that so little care is taken of this interesting relic. The south chantry of the same church has a mutilated late florid screen and two exquisite stall-heads, dated 1519; of the rood-screen only the panels remain, though the tracery is still remembered.

Will. Hylton Longstaffe.
Darlington, Durham.

* Inter alia, the new church of S. John Darlington, is designed in the early English style, with a stiff obtuse florid tracoried roof. To produce any thing like a good general effect, I conceive early English roofs should possess at least an equilateral-triangled section, and carefully avoid foliation, save in its later specimens, when foliated circles and triangles may be sparingly used. The same church is to have a panelled door. A plain one with iron-work would have been far more suitable.

NOTES IN THE PROVINCES.

An "old inhabitant" of Cambridge, while assuring the *Chronicle* of the "general satisfaction" with which the announcement of an intention to build club-chambers for public purposes has been received, suggests the "establishment of a regular market-house underneath some of the rooms," and the formation of a double front, by the extension of the proposed buildings from one thoroughfare backwards to another, on the corporation property on which it is proposed to build these new municipal club-chambers. Strange to say, the city of Cambridge is still without what almost every town in the empire has,—a market-house; so that the acquisition of such a desideratum, in this era of railway revolution, ought to give an additional spur to the impetus with which it is to be hoped the new architectural idea will be forthwith carried out into a "local habitation and—a name;" for even a telling, brief, and comprehensive name, is yet a desideratum for this new collective idea, and such a name, too, is of much importance, however little there may in many cases be "in a name."——The metropolis has had an energetic example set before it in the prompt realization of the project, only lately started, of an abattoir at the Trowse station, on the Norfolk Railway. Two sets of slaughter-houses have been built with every convenience for the daily slaughter of 100 beasts and 300 sheep. The buildings and yards are inclosed within high brick walls, and adjoining the slaughter-house there is a large water-tank. Trucks to be loaded with the carcases run close to the spot.——The sewerage of the marsh district at Southampton is still under discussion. It seems to be undecided whether the sewers should be cut along the public roads or under property let out to private parties. The council's approval of a plan on the latter principle proposed by the committee has been rescinded, and the further consideration of the question referred back to the committee.——The architect's report on the repairs more or less necessary at Northwood church, Isle of Wight, being of too sweeping and extensive an order for the parish funds, or rather for the liberality or ability of the requisite subscribers, amounting indeed to the virtual rebuilding of the whole edifice, the architect has been requested to furnish an account of the repairs only which are absolutely necessary.——The price of gas at Cowes has been reduced from 12s. 6d. to 10s. per 1,000 cubic feet, in consequence of the late somewhat subdued grumbling of the consumers. As at Sunderland, before the wholesale reduction of the charge for public lamps from 45s. to 17s., any further reduction no doubt "could not possibly pay," until a more determined spirit is displayed by those who do pay. The Salisbury directors have come down a step lower than their brethren at Cowes, having reduced the price to 8s. 6d. per 1,000 feet, with a further reduction to a considerable extent where large quantities are consumed. At Romsey, no reduction from the original 12s. 6d. has as yet been obtained; but the proper means are in the way of being taken by the consumers, many of whom have determined to become as far as possible non-consumers, by burning as little as they can, until the price be reduced to a less extravagant standard.——The foundations of the new Roman Catholic Chapel at Salisbury are nearly completed.——The Plymouth council

are advertising for land on which to erect baths and wash-houses under the powers of the late Act.——The Admiralty have granted 4,000*l.* for the erection of a church at Morice Town, Devonport, the site of the new steam arsenal. ——The sum of 11,500*l.* has been certified to the Bristol magistracy to be requisite for the purposes of the Act for pitching, paving, and lighting the city for the ensuing year.——The foundation-stone of the new grand race-stand at Manchester was laid on Saturday week.—— On Monday before last a portion of an extensive cotton mill at Ancoats, Manchester, fell in, destroying life in one case, and injuring it in two others, besides smashing some valuable machinery. The precise cause of the disaster is not ascertained; but it is said to have most probably arisen from the giving way of one of the large iron beams, which were in some parts more than 2 feet thick, and about 33 feet 6 inches long (the dimensions of the room being 40 feet by 32 feet), and weighed 66½ cwt. The damage is estimated at 1,200*l.*, and 200 hands will lose employment for weeks to come. ——Tenders have been made and contracts are about to be entered into for the building of a church and parsonage-house at Oxton, in the parish of Woodchurch, Liverpool, at a cost of about 3,000*l.*, including land. The rector of the parish has subscribed no less than 1,000*l.* towards the erection, and appropriated the Easter dues towards the permanent endowment; and public subscriptions have been set afloat for the remainder of the requisite means. ——The Newcastle town-council are about to erect baths and wash-houses for the poor at the Garth Heads, "a determination highly creditable" to them. It has been determined by the same council to proceed forthwith to erect their new gas works unless the present company come to an agreement in the interim as to the disposal of their works to the corporation, who appear to be still willing to give them a profit of 50 per cent. on their original capital, although the new works (planned and estimated by Mr. Emmett, of Oldham, for a premium of fifty guineas) can be erected for little more than half the sum offered to the company, namely, 90,500*l.* The directors, however, were not satisfied with the paltry profit of 50 per cent. on their "golden egg" producer, but at last agreed to recommend the shareholders to accept of 103,500*l.* for the works! Mr. Hodgson, who moved the resolution to build, observed that "it had been repeated over and over again, by Mr. Keenlyside, that the company was founded on public principle. But if so, he thought they might be content with a profit of 50 per cent., and with something less than an annual profit of 10 per cent. if they were so very patriotic." "As to the quality of the gas," observed another councillor, "Mr. K. should have said nothing, for all the town was complaining of it." The main object of the corporation in offering such terms as those specified, has been to avoid competition.——In the vicinity of Newcastle there is a peculiar sort of black clay, said to be invaluable for lining blast furnaces, as it stands an intense heat without fusing.——A church bridge is to be thrown across the South Tyne, in the parish of Kirkhaugh. The Greenwich Hospital commissioners have subscribed 25*l.*, and the Bishop of Durham 20*l.*, towards the structure.——A rumour that the dome of St. George's Church, at Edinburgh (a sort of miniature of St. Paul's, though itself a large edifice), was in an insufficient state, has led to an examination of it by Mr. Reid, the architect, and a complete contradiction to the rumour.——Government is said to have given orders for the construction of a new model prison near Dublin, with cells for 500 prisoners, on the plan of the pentagonal prison at Pentonville.——A total amount of 1,145,800*l.* has been advanced in loans, on the security of the Irish poor-rates, for the erection of workhouses in Ireland. Of this sum, 1,062,312*l.* remained unpaid on 5th January, 1847.——The Church Building Society, on Monday week, made grants for erecting or enlarging churches in eleven parishes.

No Poor-rates on Public Parks.—It was recently decided at Manchester that, on the ground of want of occupancy, beneficial or otherwise, Phillips' Park is not liable to poor-rates, although the lodges, refreshment houses, &c., are.

RAILWAY JOTTINGS.

Compensation to the amount of 525*l.* for the loss of a wife by railway accident, was lately given at law against the Great North of England Company, who, as was contended, were responsible as common carriers for the safe delivery of whatever property was entrusted to them. Although a wife be thus classed with property, and held to belong to her husband, it must still remain a curious question for the lawyers whether compensation ought to be granted on the like ground for the loss of a husband, who can scarcely be held to be property belonging to the wife, if the wife, on the contrary, be property belonging to the husband. We suspect, however, that the argument savours more of the apt ingenuity of the barrister than the grave ratiocination of the judge. In France, it is not uncommon for surviving relatives to claim damages in such cases; but this is amongst the first of claims ever made in our own country for "compensation for death by accident," as it has been rather unsatisfactorily termed. It is certainly a vast improvement on the old system of deodands, however, as a contemporary remarks. Indeed, not only have the real sufferers—that is, the surviving relatives of the real sufferers—had no amends afforded them by deodands, but the idea is radically defective otherwise, inasmuch as it inculcates a doctrine not one whit more rational than that on which the canine race may be supposed to act in uniformly snapping at the mere insensate instrument by means of which many an unmerited injury has been inflicted on their faithful hides.——It is calculated that the railway "calls" for March will amount to upwards of 3,000,000*l.*; but if the Chancellor of the Exchequer, as is said, lately had the offer of loans that would have paid the half of the national debt, there must be plenty of money in the country, at least, if not in the hands of railway shareholders in particular, to meet immensely heavier demands on the purse of the moneyed interest than that of merely a few millions.——Railway bars, to the extent of 1,500 tons a week, it is said, can be turned out by the new rail mill at Cyfarthfa, with ends sawed off and altogether finished for use.—— The Great Western Station at Cheltenham, is rapidly progressing towards its expected completion in May next.——We learn with pleasure, says the *Railway Chronicle*, that the committee of the Suburban Villages Association, of which Lord Morpeth is the chairman, have arranged with the Eastern Counties for the conveyance of not less than five hundred passengers each day [whether at reduced fares or altogether free to the passengers themselves, is not stated] from and to a village that it is intended to erect on the London side of the Lea-bridge station, just five miles and a half from the Bishopsgate station. A plot of land of about one hundred acres in extent, the property of Lord Mornington, has been selected as the site of the village. Building operations will be shortly commenced upon the plan of Mr. Moffatt, the architect of the association. Such a mode of sending London out of town, even from amongst the lower strata of its almost national population, is a worthy one indeed, that merits an effective promotion, a successful issue, and an extensive imitation. —— The Halifax contract, on the West Riding Union Line, has been let to Messrs. Miller and Blackie, to be completed in two years and a half; the Cleckheaton contract to Mr. M'Cormack, to be completed in twelve months; and the Bradford contract also to Mr. M'Cormack.——The Long Preston contract, on the North Western, has been let to Mr. George Thompson. The other contracts on the line will be also shortly let.——The first stone of the great central station at the Carlisle terminus of the Lancaster and Carlisle line, was laid on Monday week before last.——The scrutineers appointed to examine the state of the votes on the question of the Sabbath trains on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway, have reported that there was a total majority of 152 against Sunday trains. It also appeared that there had been addressed to the directors 1,573 memorials against the running of trains on Sunday, and eighteen in favour of the practice.——A letter from Orleans states that it is now ascertained beyond doubt that a portion of the ground, under and in the neighbourhood of the French central railway, is undermined by natural tunnels. The first suspicion of the existence of these subterraneous passages was created towards the end of last year, when nearly 1,600 metres of earth on the railway works were swallowed up by the opening of a chasm.

ELECTRO-TELEGRAPHIC PROGRESS.

The Admiralty, says the *Globe*, have at length directed the extension of the South-Western subterranean telegraph to the Admiralty at Whitehall. It will branch off in the Strand, near the company's present office.——At a late meeting of the Commissioners of Sewers, the secretary of the Electro-Telegraphic Company applied for permission to lay down the wires of communication through the city from the various electric telegraphs, to be united in one centre at Lothbury. The secretary said that the company intended to bring the telegraph into the city by way of London-bridge, King William-street, and Princes-street, into Lothbury, where the terminus of the company would be, and from thence along Moorgate-street into Finsbury. The object of the company was to bring the electric line of the South-Western and Dover railways by the above line into the city; and from the terminus at Lothbury to unite them with the Eastern Counties, the London and Birmingham, and the Great Western lines, so as to form one general communication with the different railways throughout the kingdom. The company proposed to lay down the pipes alongside of the kerb, and in a line with the gas pipes, so as to prevent any nuisance or stoppage arising to the traffic, or annoyance to the foot passengers. The question that the company be empowered to lay down the wires of the electric telegraph was unanimously carried in the affirmative. Thus shortly isolation of locality will for ever cease, and the metropolis will more and more emphatically become the great brain of the empire, with which all the chief centres of population and trade, at least, if not every minor centre too, will be placed in instantaneous communion; and then, indeed, shall a revolution such as never heretofore entered into the heart of man to conceive, be in course of almost miraculous establishment.

ALL SAINTS, HUTTON, ESSEX.

The village of Hutton is situated about three miles from Brentwood, on the right-hand side of the road to Billericay. The church is close to the high road, at a little distance from the village.

It is picturesque, while plain and unpretending; and though small, contains all the essential features of a church. It consists of nave and aisles, chancel, north porch, a modern vestry, with a large chimney on the north side of the chancel, and a wooden tower with low shingle spire (retaining the cross and the cock) on the west end of the nave.

Exterior.—The west window is perpendicular, of three lights, with tracery, and without dripstone. On the south side of the nave are two two-light late decorated windows, under square heads, with dripstones resting on notch heads, each light being pierced on each side. The jambs and mullions are simply chamfered. At the south-east is a plain modern dormer window. The windows on the north side correspond exactly in size, character, and position, with those on the south. At the north and south-west and south-east corners of the aisles, and between the windows on the south side, are heavy buttresses, all slope, that is, the slope is carried down to the ground to the distance of some few feet, so as nearly to form an equilateral triangle. Those at the corners are placed diagonally. At the north-east corner is a buttress of three stages.

The porch is a fine, open, timber one, with a foliated barge-board. Each side is divided into four bays; each bay is trefoliated, and has on each side a kind of trefoil, the effect being decidedly decorated. The roof is of good pitch, consisting simply of rafters; only two of them have collars; these are placed at a slight distance below the ridge piece. The north door is late pointed perpendicular, with dripstone. At the east end of the north aisle, is a single trefoiled-light window, but it is covered in by the vestry.

The chancel has but the east window now

open; it is plain pointed with dripstone; the tracery has disappeared, and there are two mullions running straight up into the heads. On the south side may be traced a single light window under square dripstone, now bricked up.

Interior.—The nave is separated from either aisle by three arches resting on piers (each of which consists of four half pillars) with early perpendicular capitals and bases. The tower is supported by massive frame-work. The nave has an open timber roof, each principal consisting of horizontal tie-beam, with king-post and struts. Close to the door stands the font; it is composed of the bowl of a former font turned bottom upwards, and a modern bowl rests on the bottom of the more ancient one. This latter is octagonal, with a shallow square leaf on each side. At the east end of the south aisle is a plain trefoiled piscina.

The chancel is ceiled and plastered. Close to the communion-table are brasses of a knight and his lady, each figure 15 inches long; underneath are their children. The inscription is lost; according to Manning's "List of Monumental Brasses," the date is *circa* 1510. Near this is a brass-plate bearing the following inscription, it relates to George White mentioned below:—"Here lyeth George White, esquier, the sonne of Richard White, esquier, which George died the 13th day of June in the year of our Lord God 1584." There are no other monuments of interest.

HISTORICAL NOTICE.

The name is said to be derived from the Saxon hou, a hill, and tun, a town; it is otherwise written Atahou, and Hatton. It belonged, in Edward the Confessor's reign, to one Got, a freeman; but William I. gave it to Battle Abbey, as is shewn in the following extract from Doomsday Book:—"The land of St. Martin de Bello (Battle), in the hundred of Berdestaple; Gotins, a freeman, held Atahou in King Edward's time, for a manor and three hides all but 20 acres, always 2 carucates in demesne."

The following is from the Book of Chantries:—"Then one Villane, now none: then 10 bordars, now 15: then one fishery, now none: 4 servants; wood for 1,000 hogs: then 2 horses, now 3: then 4 beasts, now 19: 100 sheep, then 60 hogs, now 100 all but 8: 4 stands of bees and 3 sochmen of 1 hide: always 1 carucate, and 15 acres of free land: then worth 100s., now 6*l*, and those 15 acres worth 30d."

The rectory, or great tithes, belonged to Battle Abbey, but at the Dissolution they passed with the manor. The advowson has been in the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's since 1325.

The manor and hall were granted by William I. to Battle Abbey. It remained with them till the Suppression, when Henry VIII., in the year 1540, granted it to Sir Thomas Darcy; he immediately alienated it to Sir Richard Rich. His son, Edwin Rich, alienated the manor of Hoton, *alias* Hutton Hall, to Jerome Weston, who soon parted with it to the White family. Richard White married Maud, daughter of Sir W. Tyrrell, of Heron. Richard; his son, succeeded; then his son, George White, who died 1584 (see inscription above), then Richard White, followed by his son Richard. His son George sold it to Thomas Cory, who left nine acres for the support of the poor and repairs of the church. Thomas Cory died in 1656, and is buried in the church. John Heyward then possessed it; then William Hatherly, who sold it to Robert Surman for 15,200*l*. Henry Hall (brother of Sir P. Hall, of Upton) bought it for 12,060*l*. He died in 1749, and was succeeded by his son Henry.

AMATEUR.

THE INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS.—The Institute held their first conversazione in their new rooms, Great Marlborough-street, on the evening of Saturday last, when the walls and tables were literally covered with fine works of art. The rooms, which are scarcely large enough for such a purpose, were much crowded. We were glad to see a sprinkling of the Royal Academicians there, and hope that all personal differences amongst the members will be forgotten, in a generous emulation to render the society as advantageous to art and artists as it may easily be made.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, SOUTHOVER.

THIS church has been a focus of attraction to antiquaries during the past year, owing to the well-known discovery, in its vicinity, of the mortal remains of William first Earl de Warren, and Gundreda his countess, daughter of William the Conqueror. These venerable relics were preserved in the church; and a sepulchral chapel attached to the edifice is now building for their reception.

Perhaps few small churches in this part of England contain more varieties of architecture than Southover Church; specimens of early and late Norman, decorated, and late perpendicular or tudor, being blended with some of the architecture of the last,—the "revived Pagan" of Mr. Paley. Of this age, is the massive brick tower at the west end.

The church consists of a single pace or nave and south aisle. The north wall, fronting the street, has been newly faced with flint, the wall being built of rubble, and formerly coated with plaster: buttresses have been erected between each window, and a handsome deeply-recessed door-way in the decorated style inserted in the tower.

The windows in the north wall are five, two of which are in the decorated style; the others, square-headed windows, are probably of the 15th century. The east end is lighted by two windows: that in the chancel, a four-light window of the tudor style (the gift of the rector); that in the aisle, a square-headed one.

On the south side, the windows are all of the tudor period: one of four, and three of three lights. The basement story of the tower is lighted by a similar window. The church is entered from the ringing chamber, by a pointed door-way, part of which is concealed by a gallery. The massive square Norman font stands near this door-way; it is of large size, and utterly devoid of ornament.

The nave is divided from the aisle by four remarkably short and massive Norman pillars and semi-circular arches; from the eastern-most of which springs, in a curious manner, a late perpendicular or tudor arch and pillar, and about half of another arch, bisected by the east wall; no doubt the church was thus curtailed of its fair proportions by some utilitarian churchwarden for the sake of the materials.

The church has been thoroughly restored and repewed, it having been closed for eight months. The pews are low and painted oak; several are open benches. The windows contain some good specimens of stained glass, consisting principally of sacred emblems, the Agnus Dei, the Dove, the sacred Monogram, an ancient emblem of the Blessed Trinity, &c. The east window is filled with glass cast into a variety of elegant patterns, and relieved with coloured borders; it has a very rich effect.

The roof is probably of the Tudor period; the principal timbers are visible, and are painted oak.

H. E. D.

THE WORTH OF AN ACORN.

WE have been favoured with the following statement of the contents and value of the celebrated Grove Field Oak, which was felled upon the estate of Mr. Thomas Gifford, of Chillington, near Wolverhampton, in 1786.

Butt 30 ft. long .... 5 feet girth .. Feet. 750

	Arms.		Girth.		Feet.
1	30 feet		9	in.	17
2	30	„	14	„	41
3	14	„	9	„	9
4	25	„	16½	„	47
5	41	„	13½	„	41
6	25	„	14	„	34
7	29	„	9	„	16
8	25	„	14½	„	36
9	19	„	9	„	10
10	18	„	11	„	15
11	12	„	13	„	13
12	30	„	13½	„	32
13	24	„	10	„	16
14	26	„	13	„	26
15	33	„	17	„	80
16	15	„	13	„	15
17	13	„	17	„	24
18	13	„	8½	„	6
19	13	„	19	„	30
20	10	„	24	„	40
21	23	„	11	„	19
22	15	„	13	„	15
			Contents in feet		1,310
			Total amount		£216 9 4

14 cord, 3 feet, of wood; 6 tons of bark.

FOREIGN ARCHITECTURAL AND COLLATERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Rome.—German art-critics have now started the idea, that *historical* paintings should depict historical (*welt-geschichtliche*) events. They apply this remark reflectingly on a late picture of Mr. Rahl, of Vienna, now at Rome—"The Triumphal entry of Manfred into Lucrecia," exhibited in the Art-locale near the Porta del Popolo. The execution, however, is said to be good, and, technically, quite perfect. A cartoon by the same Mr. Rahl—"The Persecution of Christians in the Catacombs of Rome," is said to be one of a historical character. Here, however, it seems that the artist has placed a mosaic image of Jesus Christ in the back-ground, which might have existed at that time in basilicas,—in catacombs, never.

Byzantine Church in Bohemia.—The transactions of the R. S. of Prague of 1846 contain a memoir of Mr. Wocel on the Byzantine church at Zabor. This is the only specimen of round-arch architecture existing in that realm, and has been hitherto completely unknown, at least unappreciated. The materials for Bohemian architecture and art are increasing every day.

Medal in honour of Napoleon.—Messrs. Galle and Barre, die-sinkers of Paris, have just executed two medals in memory of the translation of the ashes of the emperor to France. The front of both represents the head of Louis Philippe. The reverse of the one exhibits two figures, vested in *drapérie*, standing on the deck of an antique ship; the one seen *en face*, with the regal crown and sceptre in hand, leans with its left arm on the second, seen in profile, and holding a cinereal urn. On the forepart of the vessel a cock is represented. The inscription is:—"Cineres Napoleonis in patriam relati." In the *exergue*, XXX. Nov. 1840. On the reverse of the other medal, the Hôtel des Invalides is represented, and on a ground strewn with immortelles, four persons, adorned with laurel crowns, bearing the cenotaph of Napoleon, on which lie the imperial insignia. The genius of navigation precedes them.

Cologne Art-Exhibition.—"This exhibition also shews, that art-excellence comes by starts, and can be neither commanded nor obtained at any, even the *highest* bidding, if it does not lie within the man; and if it does, we may assist or shackle him for a moment; no matter which, talent will always be talent." After these general observations of the *Kunstblatt*, we come to a brief enumeration of the architectural part of the exhibition. Mr. Osterwald, of Köln, exhibited a complete lateral elevation of the fine pointed-arch church of Altenberg, in which the age-tinted colour of the stone has much come to the artist's aid. Of Mr. Michelis, of Bonn, we have two internal views of the *Münster-Kreuzgang* of that city, built in the 12th century, also a general view of Trarbach, famous for its great architectural antiquity. The view of the corridor of a convent has a particularly grand effect, by the light striking in by one huge window in the back; the motive of this picture is taken from the house in which Beethoven was born.

Enlargement of the Paris Royal Library.—The long lasted contest between *sense* and jobbing is at last decided in favour of the former, and the library is to be *remodelled* on its *present site*—central, convenient. A vote of a grant for the enlarging of the building has just been laid before the Chambers. The present plan will not cost more than four or five millions of francs. The entire Palais Mazarin will be preserved; the houses, however, which surround the three smaller courts to the north (hitherto used as officers' dwellings), will be demolished. The same will be the case with the buildings of the late treasury, forming the north-east angle of the block. The three (obnoxious) houses in the Rue Vivienne will be razed to the ground—all which combined will permit the construction of *new* galleries on the north and east side of the huge square, as well as the enlargement of the adjacent streets. Consequently, the space of the library will be *doubled*, the building isolated on all sides—and freed from the hazy chimney-smoke of the officers of the library. The merit of this victory is owing to Count Laborde, author of "Le Palais Mazarin et les grandes habitations de ville et campagne au, 17me. siècle." Paris, 1846.

BRIDGE BUILDING IN HOLLAND.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

At a meeting on the 16th inst., the paper read was "A description of the method adopted in preparing the foundation, and in building the bridge over the Poldersaart, on the line of the Amsterdam and Rotterdam Railway," by the Chevalier Conrad; compiled by Mr. C. Manby, secretary, from documents furnished by Mynheer Wenckeback.

This bridge derived its importance from the peculiarly treacherous nature of the ground upon which it was constructed; for although in Holland bad foundations are the rule rather than the exception, the difficulties were in this case so peculiarly great, as to demand particular notice. The Poldersaart is a canal encompassing and conveying away the water from the Polders, or spots of drained land, in the commune of Kethel. The railway, traversing it at a considerable angle, rendered a skew-bridge of three openings necessary; the centre one 13 feet span, for the navigation, and the two side arches, 21 feet span each, for the drainage waters. The proceedings were commenced in the usual manner, with the intention of having separate foundations for each pier. This was by shooting in large quantities of sand to form dams, within which, when pumped dry, the foundations would have been excavated. After a length of about 70 feet of sand-dam, 10 feet deep, had been filled in, without exhibiting any signs of sinking, a heavy thunder-storm occurred, during which the whole mass of sand-dam was suddenly engulphed to a depth of 29 feet, whilst there arose simultaneously, at a short distance down the canal to above the water level, a mass of bog earth of an area of 4,489 square feet. The mass increased at subsequent periods of the proceedings to the area of 9,628 square feet. It was evident that an extensive subterraneous shifting of the bog-earth had occurred, and there was reason to fear for the safety of the adjacent dykes and other works. Piling and fascine works were tried without success. Piles of 70 feet in length, when driven and tied together by waling pieces, swerved bodily from their position, and became useless. Fascines equally failed in producing stability. The engineer therefore determined after directing the canal water into a side cut, to surround the site of the intended foundation with mounds of sand, allowing for their subsidence into the gulph below, and their squeezing up the bog-earth around and within the spot. This was at length completed and the foundation pit was enabled to be pumped dry. It then became necessary to remove all the bog-earth from within the space for the foundations, which was accomplished by digging out spaces of a yard square, and filling them in with sand as they proceeded, until by commencing at the exterior and working inwards to the centre, all the bog-earth was removed, and a bed of sand had been formed in its place. The piles for the ordinary foundation used in Holland were then driven through the made ground, and the structure was completed with perfect success. The sand-dams, and the masses of upraised bog-earth outside, being subsequently dredged up in the ordinary manner to restore the canal to its original bed. In this description, the circumstances most deserving attention, appeared to be the sudden rising of the bog-earth during a thunder-storm. This is, however, of frequent occurrence in Holland; and it would appear as if the adhesion of the masses of bog earth to the bottom was so slight, that the vibration communicated to the water by the thunder sufficed to destroy the equilibrium, and the bog turf, which from its slight specific gravity will float even when wet, instantly rose to the surface. When, therefore, as in this case, a heavy mass of sand was placed in the vicinity of such bog earth, the bottom was unable to resist the pressure, and the least vibration caused it to break through the crust, being engulphed amidst the lighter material, which it forced up in the direction of the least resistance. The paper treated at some length on all the precautions necessary in this and similar constructions in Holland, where such bad foundations are of very constant occurrence.

In the discussion which ensued, descriptions were given of the simpler methods employed in similar situations in England, where bridges of greater weight and span were constructed upon foundations of nearly as treacherous natures. For instance, on one of the branches of the Norfolk Railway, for a bridge, of which the swinging portion weighed 100 tons, a series of sixteen piles, driven 50 feet deep into the silt, in 12 feet water, supported a cast-iron kerb, upon which a cast-iron close-jointed cylinder was lowered and secured; within this, the centre foundation was built, and had stood perfectly. Other instances of raft or floating foundations, common in Lincolnshire, were adduced, shewing the simple means by which such local difficulties were overcome in England.

THE LIGHT AND HEALTH TAX.

In the Commons, on Friday last, Lord Duncan asked Lord Morpeth, as Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests, whether any alteration was contemplated in the mode of assessing the window-tax. He was induced, he said, to do so, by the fact that his Lordship, as one of the directors of the Metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes, had sanctioned a report issued by that Association, in which it was stated, that "the directors had bestowed much time on the question of the window-tax, as bearing upon the dwellings proposed to be erected by the association, and though the tax, according to the present mode of assessment, would bear heavily upon the tenants, they confidently hoped that an alteration in the mode of rating would shortly be effected." Lord Morpeth, in reply, said, that he quite agreed with his noble friend that the subject of the window-tax was closely connected with sanatory considerations; but it was also a financial question, and he had received no intimation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that it was his right hon. friend's intention to give up his office, and leave him (Lord Morpeth) at liberty to deal with the window duties.

A petition, as under, from 263 of the ratepayers of Reading, praying the repeal of the window-tax, was lately presented to parliament by Mr. Brotherton:—

"The petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Reading,

"Respectfully sheweth,—That the tax levied upon windows is oppressive on your petitioners, is unequal in its operation, prejudical to health and cleanliness, prevents the improvement of house property, and lessens the means of employment for the industrious classes.

"Your petitioners, for the reasons aforesaid, beseech the House of Commons immediately to repeal the tax levied upon windows in Great Britain."

Reading, March 6, 1847.

This may serve as a precedent for other bodies anxious to petition to the same effect.

New Books.

Lanzi's History of Painting in Italy. Translated by Thos. Roscoe, Vol. I. Bohn, York-street. 1847.

Mr. Bohn has done well in including Lanzi's well-known and valuable history in his "Standard Library." It will form three volumes, and will thus be obtainable for a few shillings. "Lanzi's history," as Mr. Roscoe observes, "brings into full light the leading professors of the art, exhibits at due distance those of the second class, and only glances at mediocrity and inferiority of character insomuch as to fill up the great pictoric canvas with its just lights and shades. The true causes of the decline and revival of the art at certain epochs are pointed out, with those that contribute to preserve the fine arts in their happiest lustre; in which, recourse to examples more than to precepts is strongly recommended. The best rules are unfolded for facilitating the study of different manners, some of which are known to bear a resemblance, though by different hands, and others are opposed to each other, although adopted by the same artist; a species of knowledge highly useful at a period when the best productions are eagerly sought after at a high rate. It is a history, in short, worthy of being placed at the side of that on the Literature of Italy by Tiraboschi, who, having touched upon the fine arts at the outset of his labours, often urged his ancient friend and colleague to dilate upon a subject in every way so flattering to the genius of Italy; to Italy which, however rivalled by other nations in science and in literature, stands triumphant and alone in its creative mind of art."

The present volume includes the Florentine school, the Sienese school, and the Roman school, with a biographical notice of the author and his original preface.

We are glad to see announced among the volumes in progress, "Lectures on Painting by the Royal Academicians." Our artistical literature is so meagre, and withal so confined to a few readers, that we hail thankfully this certain means of further diffusing a knowledge of the lectures in question.

Hand-book of Anatomy for Students of the Fine Arts.—By J. A. Wheeler. Highley, 32, Fleet-street.

This little book was published, the compiler says, as a pocket-companion for easy reference by the student when actually engaged in drawing, and it fully bears out his intention. Although concise, it is comprehensive and very clear.

Miscellanea.

New (Independent) Chapel, at Manchester.—The first stone of this edifice was laid last week in Cavendish-street. The plan consists of a nave and side-aisles, with transepts, and apse, or organ gallery at the east end. The nave is divided from the aisles by five lofty arches, on clustered columns, supporting a clerestory of coupled lights under one arch, with side panels in each bay. The west front consists of a principal entrance, deeply recessed, with columns, and enriched arch moulds; a lofty window over, with a continued arcade across the entire front, connecting the tower at the south-west angle with the general design. In the gable is a five-light window, and a canopied niche, with octagonal pinnacle over, separating the north aisle from the nave. The tower is in four stages, flanked with bold buttresses in four offsets, and terminating with canopies under the corbel tables of the spire, which is broached. The upper stage of the tower is arcaded, and pierced for two lights. The total height of the tower and spire is 166 feet. A deeply-recessed porch, two stages in height, is formed between the buttresses of the south side of the tower; in the gable and above is an enriched three-light window under one arch. The aisles are flanked with boldly-projecting buttresses, terminating in canopied heads above the moulded and enriched parapets. The transepts are arcaded with five arches, three pierced for lights; and all the arches are dog-toothed. In the several gables are two-light windows, with side panels, and the angles are flanked with buttresses, crowned by octagonal pierced pinnacles. The east end of the chapel is lighted by a large wheel window, in ten lights, over the organ gallery. The roofs are open, carried by curved brackets, springing from enriched corbels; and an ornamental screen terminates the east end. The building is calculated to seat from 1,400 to 1,500 people. The *Illustrated News* of last week gives a view of the church, but the architect's name is not mentioned. The style is the early transition to decorated, and the whole of the work will be externally executed in stone.

Farewell to St. Mary Magdalene's at Doncaster.—No one having taken advantage of the offer of the town council to allow the ruins of St. Mary's Church to be translated either to the proposed new cemetery or any where else, for preservation, at least, if not for restoration; and all obstacles to the progress of the new markets, as observed by the *Gazette*, having been cleared away; the last vestige of these venerable monuments of the past, sharing the fate of time, must inevitably go to the ground, leaving not even a wreck behind of what has been; so it only now remains to the lover of antiquity to bid a long farewell to the church of St. Mary Magdalene.

Carlsruhe Theatre and Church.—On the site of the theatre just destroyed a church is to be erected, while the new theatre will be built in the garden of H. R. H. the Hereditary Prince.

PROJECTED WORKS.—Advertisements have appeared in recent newspapers, calling for contract-tenders for the erection of a school in St. John's Wood Park; a pier 500 yards long, with a dock, and other works, at New Holland, Lincolnshire; five large magazines, sundry storehouses, workshops, &c., and a pier, and basin, wharf, tanks, &c., near Plymouth; an engine and boiler-house, filter-drain and well, with other works, connected with the Carlisle Water Works; certain additions to the laundry, and other works, on the Poplar Union Workhouse premises; for the restoration and enlargement of Landwade Hall, near Newmarket; and for alterations and additions to the Tottingstone House of Industry; for the performance of certain works, in building walls for three burying-grounds, at Oxford; repairs of thirty-seven miles of road between Southampton and Salisbury; of footways and carriage-ways at Westminster; pavement in Holborn; turnpike-roads from Sudbury to Bury St. Edmunds; and for a supply of 2,000 feet of Carline Nose stone kerb at West Ham; and a quantity of flints, gravel, stone, and other road materials, near Portsmouth; also for the whole works on twelve miles and thirteen miles of the Shropshire Union railways, three-quarter mile of the Glasgow, Ayr, &c.; 1,100 yards of the Drumpeller; and four miles seven furlongs of the Glasgow, Kilmarnock, &c, including 560 lineal yards of tunnelling; for 200 tons cast-iron chairs for the Glasgow and Carlisle railway; and for a supply to her Majesty's several dockyards of Welsh or Cornish slates; and brass, tin, and zinc; and of 200,000 blue bricks at Birmingham, and twelve miles in length of 12-inch cast-iron socket pipes and appendages for Boston Water-works.

SCARBORO' CHURCH COMPETITION.—Fourteen plans were sent in for the restoration of the parish church of Scarboro', and were considered by the committee. The first premium (50*l.*) was awarded to Mr. Christian. The *Hull Packet* says,—"They had some difficulty in deciding which were the second and third best, as the plans of Mr. Pearson, of London, and Mr. Johnson, of Lichfield, were upon a par in point of merit, and they determined to divide the two lower premiums of 30*l.* and 20*l.* between them, making them both 25*l.* each. Mr. Christian is to be entrusted with the entire renovation of the building. The whole of the galleries are to be cleared away, the nave to be thrown open, considerably lengthened, and a stained-glass window to be added at the east end; the pewing to be entirely renewed; the south transept, at present used as a school-room, to be thrown open; the north side and west end to be entirely rebuilt; the old wood-work to be taken out of the remaining windows, and the mullions and tracery to be restored, and the roofs to be considerably heightened."

CHURCH BUILDING IN THE ISLAND OF GRANADA.—A recent letter from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Granada, in the West Indies, says, that since 1838, when there was but one little chapel in it, six new churches have been erected there, all in mason-work, and slated or tiled—they are from 80 feet in length, by 40 in width, to 130 by 50 feet, and high in proportion. The letter continues:—"The poor negroes carried the stones of which some of them are built *from one to seven miles on their heads.* This you could not believe unless on competent authority. *I vouch for its truth;* nay, the stones of which one of the churches has been erected, were actually dived for by the negroes into the sea, and put into a flat they had anchored at the spot to be rowed afterwards to the shore, and have the contents thereof carried on the heads of the willing and devoted negroes to the site of the building."

PROPOSED NEW CHURCHES IN THE METROPOLIS.—The new vicar of St. Pancras has proposed to the parishioners to raise funds for *ten* new churches, and has been liberally responded to. A portion of the parish of Bermondsey has been made into an ecclesiastical district, and a new church will forthwith be erected.

GREAT BELL FOR MONTREAL.—The great bell, recently cast by Messrs. Mears for the cathedral at Montreal, weighs 13¼ tons. For casting it 25 tons of metal were fused, and the mould was filled in twelve minutes. The diameter at the mouth is 8 feet 7 inches, and the height to the shoulder 5 feet 11 inches.

ENTICING AND HARBOURING ENGAGED WORKMEN.—In the northern circuit, on the 17th inst., Mr. Pim, an extensive iron-founder at Hull, charged Messrs. Joseph Butler and Co., ironfounders, at Stanningley, near Leeds, with enticing away four moulders, who in consequence quitted the employment of the plaintiff and entered that of the defendants, where three of them continued to be harboured notwithstanding a notice and warning given by the plaintiff's attorney to the defendants. The case of the plaintiffs on the issue as to enticing the man away, mainly rested on a letter written in the name of the defendants to "Mr. John Bagshaw, ironmonger, Hull," offering him employment. The defendant, however, endeavoured to shew that the men had acted under the influence of the "Moulders Union," which compelled them to quit the one employment, if not to enter the other; and the jury at length found for the defendant on the issue as to enticing the men away, but for the plaintiff on that which charged the harbouring; and they assessed the plaintiff's damages at 30*l.*

A PARISH WITH NINETEEN PAVING BOARDS!—"How inefficient the cleansing of the poorer districts must be, may be inferred from a curious fact stated by the witness (Mr. Worrall) that in the parish of St. Pancras, in which he resides, there are nineteen paving boards! In a parish with nineteen paving boards, it will not excite surprise, that 'in some parts there is no paving at all;' that 'where there is any, it is inefficient;' that 'the paving in those districts which are inhabited by the poorer classes—courts, alleys, and lanes—is generally neglected;' that the surveyors of pavements neglect their duties; that the persons who contract to remove the ashes and dirt, take away the profitable ashes, but leave the unprofitable filth for months together in the poorer districts, though bound to remove it every fortnight; that the very places, in fact, which require most cleansing are most neglected."—*Ranking's Half Yearly Abstract* Vol. IV.

ILLUMINATIVE GAS FROM EXCREMENTITIOUS MATTER.—In France the scarcity of coal, and perhaps the enterprising and peculiar spirit of research among its chemists, has led to the discovery that excrementitious matter may be made to yield illuminative as well as other gas, while the product or residue will still afford a rich and valuable manure. From what is said about the mixture or puddling into mortar, &c., we are led to suspect that the invention or discovery, which has been patented, has some sly connection with the singular process of the "French Count and his engineers," who lately astonished the inhabitants of Birmingham; but, at all events, the material is to be converted into inodorous mortar, which is to be sold by the patentees or others, at 5d. per cwt., ready prepared for the manufacture of a gas which is declared to be superior to ordinary gas, and evolved in double the quantity that an equal weight of coal is capable of producing.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A return, obtained by Mr. Moffatt, M.P., shows that the total amount of money that has been expended in the new buildings and fittings of the British Museum, from the commencement of the rebuilding in 1823, up to Christmas, 1846, is 606,500*l.* The estimate of the cost of completing the building, in which sum is included the expense for fittings in the years 1847-48, amounts to the sum of 106,911*l.* The amount that may be required for fittings in subsequent years cannot, at present, be estimated by the architect, as it will depend upon the nature and extent of the collections in progress.

REMOVAL OF OLD BUILDINGS IN WINDSOR CASTLE.—It is said that the range of buildings built in the reign of James I., between the Salisbury and Julius Cæsar Towers, and hitherto occupied as dwellings by certain of the Military Knights of Windsor, are to be taken down forthwith, in order to improve the prospect from some of her Majesty's apartments.

NEW BUILDINGS' BILL AND THE MASTER CARPENTERS.—The committee in the above bill will again meet on Wednesday evening next, when the schedules in the present bill will be taken into consideration. As the schedules form that part of the bill which applies particularly to the public in the practical working of the enactment, they specially invite communications on the subject.

MR. RUBEN—AT PRAGUE.—When the Bohemian committee of Parliament, and the art societies of that realm had decided on the *regeneration* of art, they, as almost a matter of necessity, turned their eyes towards *Munich*, and Mr. Ruben was made director of the R. A. Whatever *one* man could do, under given circumstances and in a given period, Mr. R. has certainly done. The Society of Arts received by him a complete remodelling. A connection with other (even foreign) societies was established; artists of renown in every country were *invited* to send specimens for the exhibitions, and an especial fund was created for the emulation of a great art-work. At the Academy also, important improvements were introduced; more progressed pupils obtained rooms of their own (*ateliers*). Mr. Ruben formed a collection of utensils, as well as of ornaments, weapons, &c., and constantly led his pupils *outwards* into the open stores of nature, for directing and invigorating their sense by that never failing source of observation and study. The results, a greater art appreciation and art patronage, are obvious, and require no further detail. Looking around the whole extent of the land and its history,—Mr. Ruben originated the execution of worthy art-works; as the monument of Emperor Charles IV., whose model has been executed at Dresden, by Mr. Hähnel, the casting at Nuremberg, by Mr. Burgschmidt. A stone quay has been erected along the Moldau, on which a splendid fountain will be placed, of which Mr. Kranner is the architect, Mr. Max (a pupil of Schwanthaler), the sculptor. Mr. R. has projected the completing of the *Belvidere*—a building of the early renaissance period, and its *adornation* with frescoes from Bohemian history. Mr. Ruben is also the director of the studies at the Industrial Institution (*Gewerbverein*).

THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB COMPETITION.—We have heard with much astonishment that one, at all events, of the committee acting in this matter, is visiting the offices of certain of the competitors, and examining the designs about to be submitted. Such a proceeding is calculated entirely to destroy confidence in their good faith, and should be immediately reprehended and prevented by the body at large. They have taken upon themselves an onerous duty, and are bound to perform it honestly and fairly, indeed probably wish to do so, but act in ignorance. We store the names for a future occasion.

ART IN ROME.—The Pope has commissioned a number of the first Italian artists to execute, partly from original portraits, partly from medals and coins, the likenesses of all the sovereign pontiffs his predecessors (258 in number), that these may be copied in mosaic to adorn the Basilica of St. Paul, where a similar series perished in the fire. The pictures will afterwards be permanently placed in the Vatican Museum.

SMITHFIELD A PROFITABLE SITE FOR BUILDING.—We are told that the income on city tolls from Smithfield market is under 5,000*l.* a-year. Now, there cannot be the slightest doubt that if converted into building sites for squares, &c., the ground rents would yield a much larger revenue than that.

IMMENSE CASTING.—On the night of the 11th inst., a beam for a railway bridge was cast at the foundry of Messrs. Stephenson and Co., at the Lound, Kendal, of the immense weight of nine tons, being nearly two tons heavier than any casting hitherto made at the same foundry.

MONUMENT TO LORD BYRON.—A monument to Lord Byron at Missolonghi, attached to the vice-consulate, is spoken of. The house in which the poet died no longer exists, having been blown up; the proprietor has offered the site for the erection of the monument, and a handsome sum towards it.

SUMMER RAMBLES FOR ANTIQUARIES.—The British Archæological Association will hold their next congress in Warwick at the end of July, and the Archæological Institute will meet in Norwich about the same time.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.—The exhibition of works of art in the gallery of this society, Suffolk-street, will be opened to the public on Monday.

WASTE OF SILVER.—To put the silver edging to muslin, which is always torn off and thrown away before converting the material to use, costs the country 20,000*l.* a year!

CHATHAM.—The roof of the second and third building slips in the dock-yard, says the *Morning Post*, are to be covered with galvanized zinc, instead of the roofing paper with which they are now covered. The workmen have commenced stripping the paper from the second roof, preparatory to putting on the zinc. Two Artesian wells for the supply of water, as condensing water for the engines of the new metal mills, are being bored for by the contractors, Messrs. Clark, of Tottenham-court-road. One well is completed, at a depth of 126 feet below the surface of the flooring, and receives a full supply of water. When the two pumps, which are to be ten inch, are completed, the supply from both is expected to be 400 gallons per minute.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*A. H.*"—No point is more unsettled than is "what constitutes interference with the light and air of a neighbour." An answer, without seeing the premises, would probably mislead.

"*A. S.*"—To gauge, or gage, as applied in the mixing of cements, implies a mixing in certain proportions.

"*Poor Amateur*" cannot get good Italian chalk for less than he mentions.

"*T. C. S.*"—The volume may be had by direct application to the office.

"*A. B.*"—We do not know of a class, at any of the Institutions, for learning the art of measuring.

"*Sir H. D.*"—We shall be happy to receive the papers mentioned.

"*W. D.*"—Creasy's "Encyclopædia of Engineering" has much information on centres and bridges.

"*H. S.*"—The drawing shall be engraved.

Received:—M. J. B. A." "Steerage-way." "W. E." "C. D. B." "A Subscriber." "W. F." "W. and Sons." "J. S." (Stamford-street). "R. B." (Tower-street). "Engineering Field Notes on Parish and Railway Surveying and Levelling." By H. J. Castle, surveyor and C. E. 2nd Edit. Simpkin and Marshall. 1847. "The Ancient World; or Picturesque Sketches of Creation." By Professor Ansted, F.R.S. Van Voorst, 1847.

"*Books, Prices, and Addresses.*"—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CARVINGS IN WOOD.—The unrivalled perfection at length attained by the Patent process of Carving, enables its proprietors to offer to the public, at an extremely reduced price, every possible variety of Carved Wood for external and internal enrichments—thus substituting the genuine material for those numerous imitations which have invariably been found frail and unsatisfactory.

Mouldings and Carvings of all kinds are thus supplied, adapted for Church or Library Fittings, Altar Chairs, Picture Frames, Chimney-pieces, and every description of Gothic or Elizabethan Furniture.

Specimens may be seen and Drawings obtained at the Patent Wood Carving Offices, 444, West Strand, or at the Works, Ranelagh-road, Thames-bank.

ARCHITECTURAL CARVING WORKS (IRVING'S PATENT), late Sir Francis Chantry's Foundry, Eccleston-place, Pimlico, leading out of Chester-square.

Architects and Builders are respectfully informed, that Carving in Wood, Stone, and Marble, by Patent Machinery, is carried on at the above premises. Tracery for Churches, in wood and stone, beautifully executed, at prices which will enable architects to carry out their plans, in having decorated churches, and other buildings, at comparatively small expense. Machines are sent into the country, to work on the spot, at a great saving in price. Fonts, chimney-pieces, Gothic windows, fluted columns, monuments, and head-stones, are likewise beautifully executed, and ready for fixing, or fixed. Mouldings, wood and stone, made to any pattern; scagliola, and inlaid work executed in all their branches. For the beauty of their workmanship, the public are respectfully informed that a show-room has lately been fitted up on the premises (not having any other establishment in London), for the inspection of their merits.

CARVING BY MACHINERY.
JORDAN'S PATENT.

TAYLOR, WILLIAMS, and JORDAN beg to draw the attention of those interested in the cheap production of Carved decorations, to the peculiarities of their Machinery and the proofs of its efficiency, which are to be found in the fact of its being employed at the Government Workshops for the interior decorations of the New Palace at Westminster, and in the notices of the Public Press elicited by the Exhibition of the Society of Arts.

The Athenæum of March 6th, in speaking of the Specimens of Carvings produced from Jordan's Patent, says, "These were really astonishing. A bunch of Hops and brace of Partridges were worthy to hang by the side of Grinling Gibbons's Works. A portion of the Ghiberti Florentine Gates were also very successful. The Machinery employed accomplishes precisely the task assigned to the Sculptors assistant. It clears away all the superfluities and prepares the object for the final touches of the Artist. No matter how high the relief or how low or intricate the undercutting,—no difficulties baffle this Machinery."

The Proprietors find it to be due to themselves and to the Public to state that they have at present only one Establishment which is their Machine Carving Works at Belvedere Road, Lambeth, (formerly Coade and Sealy's Terra Cotta Works), where specimens may be seen and estimates for large works obtained.

By Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent

WILKINS'S "SILENT" WATER-CLOSET.—To Architects, Surveyors, and Builders.

Gentlemen,—Your attention is respectfully invited to the above "Closet," the peculiar qualities of which are, that it is perfectly silent in the action of the Machinery and the supply of Water, and may be fixed in any convenient place in the House, without communicating the sound of a Water-closet to any of the adjoining Apartments, while it retains all that is useful in the ordinary Closets, it does away with the Ball Lavers, Wire, Cranks, &c., which cause much of the noise to which the old closets are liable. The want of a Water-closet more suitable for the present mode of fixing them in the internal parts of Dwelling Houses and Office Apartments, has long been felt, and the benefit to be derived from one that is "Silent" in the action of the Machinery and supply of water, is sufficiently obvious to render unnecessary any lengthened comment in its favour.

This Closet is simple in its construction, the whole of the apparatus (including the trap), being completed between the floor of the room and the seat of the Closet, thereby rendering it quite easy to remove any noisy Closet and fix the "Silent" one in its place, without interfering without the trap, which is generally embedded between the floor and ceiling below the Closet. The "Silent" Closet is also clean, and so free from any effluvia, as to allow of its being fixed in any bed-room (where there is a convenience of fixing a pipe down the outer wall of the house) without occasioning the least unpleasantness whatever.

May be viewed Daily, and Orders taken at No. 28, Gower-place, University College, London.

ROYAL ARMS FOR CHURCHES.—The Royal Arms of the Present Reign, fully Emblazoned in good old Heraldic Style, and quite new, in a frame of gold and oak, adapted for a church or any large interior, to be disposed of Price Moderate.—Apply to Mr. PARTRIDGE, 132, Great Portland-street, Cavendish-square.

PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS, at HALF PRICE, COLOURED or PLAIN. The Public are invited to inspect the specimens of Photographic Art, with new improvements, at the Photographic Establishment, 183, Strand (between Norfolk-street and St. Clement's Church):—Portraits, including case, from 10s. Satisfactory ones guaranteed. Likenesses by this system can be finished in oil or water colours by a sitting of less than a minute, on card, ivory, or canvass, combining the truth of the daguerreotype with artistic skill. Hours from Ten to Four.

ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS, and the Trade in general, are informed they can be supplied with Cement and Plaster Ornaments of first-rate quality, consisting of chimney-shafts in the Elizabethan and other styles, trusses, balusters, vases, capitals, centre flowers, scrolls, bed moulds, &c. &c., on the most reasonable terms, by JNO. HERBERT and SON, Modellers, &c., 42, Parker-street, Drury-lane. Modelling executed for the Trade.

A first-rate assortment of shop-front trusses ready for fixing.—Centre flowers fixed complete 25 per cent. cheaper than papier maché.

GAS.—The Introduction of Gas into private dwellings is rapidly increasing; it is therefore of the greatest importance not only to the consumer but to the gas company and gas fitter, that the most secure and simple means of regulating it be applied. The patentees of CARTER'S SAFETY GAS VALVE, can from many years' experience and the high testimonials they are daily receiving, confidently recommend it to all persons interested in gas lighting, as being more secure, more durable, and not so liable to get out of order, and in every respect superior to the old plug cock, so frequently leaky or set fast by corrosion. It has the advantage of being inexpensive, and easily adapted to any description of fittings. Manufactured by the patentees, T. LAMBERT and SON, at their Gas and Steam Apparatus and Metal Pipe Works, 30, New-cut, near the Blackfriars-road.

BUILDERS AND IRONMONGERS are requested, when writing for JENNINGS'S SHOP SHUTTER SHOE AND FASTENER, to send the finished thickness of the Shutter, and also at which end of the front they commence putting up the Shutters (RIGHT OR LEFT), as they face the front.

JENNINGS'S SHUTTER FASTENER. Shop Fronts are more damaged and disfigured by the Shutter Bar than from any other cause. Bars are a trouble to put up and take down, and troublesome when down. JENNINGS'S REGISTERED SHOP SHUTTER FASTENER supersedes the destructive Bar, and answers the purpose also of a shutter shoe. The shoes and fasteners being made of brass, afford greater protection to the corner of the shutter, and leave no rusty deposit on the stall-board in damp weather. Hundreds of shops have been secured by the inventor, and testimonials of their ease and efficiency may be obtained from the occupiers. A front, containing eight shutters, secured for 24s., or a new front shod and secured for 40s. A liberal discount allowed to Builders, Ironmongers, and Painters, who introduce it to the notice of persons whose shops they decorate.—To be had of the Inventor, 29, Great Charlotte-street, Blackfriars-road, or of any respectable ironmonger.

SNOXELL'S PATENT SAFETY REVOLVING WOOD SHUTTERS.
Manufactory, 96, Regent-street, and 131, Chancery-lane.

THE Patentee having fixed a great number of his shutters in London, and given universal satisfaction can confidently recommend them both for security and durability, the edges being sheathed with Iron. Their construction is so simple that the largest establishment can be opened or closed with the greatest possible ease without the use of machinery. Their superiority over other revolving shutters consists in their great strength and stiffness, being without metal hinges, consequently cannot rust, buckle, be strained, or get out of order, and are safer. Persons dissatisfied with the patent rising gear now used for iron shutters can have it removed, and the shutters made to draw up in any part of the premises with the slightest exertion, without machinery, thereby avoiding the unpleasant use of oil.

REVOLVING SAFETY SHUTTERS,
WITH PATENT CONVEX IRON LATHS.
PATENT CORRUGATED WINDOW BLINDS, &c.

The attention of Architects, Builders, and Blind-makers is requested to the IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS in the above articles, and inspection invited at the manufactory. The great importance of strength and stiffness in the laths of REVOLVING IRON SHUTTERS, in affording increased security is obvious, and it is only necessary to point out the fact, that the patent convex laths are 12 times stronger than the ordinary flat laths, to insure their general adoption.

The patentee invites attention to his greatly improved gearing, for raising and lowering his patent shutters, which, possessing all the advantages of the endless screw (worm and wheel) cannot, even by wear, be liable to run down, and entirely avoids the necessity of using the ratchet-wheel; and is at once simple and thoroughly effective, and is SAFER and MORE DURABLE than any plan yet adopted for that purpose, thus rendering his Patent Revolving Shutters the SAFEST and MOST EFFECTIVE in use. These shutters are fixed horizontally (either above or below the window or door) or vertically, for which position the greatly increased strength of the convex laths renders them peculiarly suitable. THE PATENTEE IS THE SOLE MANUFACTURER OF REVOLVING SHUTTERS, WITH CONVEX IRON LATHS. Engravings and prospectuses forwarded on application. IMPROVED DRAWN METALLIC SASH BARS, ASTRIGALS, MOULDINGS, STALL-BOARD PLATES, &c.—Patentee and Manufacturer, JOHN HARCOURT QUINCEY, 115, Old-street, London.

INJUNCTION.

BUNNETT and CORPE'S Patent REVOLVING IRON SHUTTERS.—Since the verdict found in favour of the Patentees, in the Court of Exchequer, in the action tried by order of the Court of Chancery, that Court has granted a perpetual Injunction for restraining all infringements of this Patent, and therefore all parties are hereby cautioned against infringing the same.

THE PRICES ARE GREATLY REDUCED, and BUNNETT AND CORPE'S PATENT IRON SHUTTERS ARE THE CHEAPEST AS WELL AS THE BEST. They are made with convex laths, if required. The worm and wheel motion for raising and lowering revolving iron shutters (as secured by this Patent) is the only safe and durable mode of effecting that object. In large shutters it is indispensable.

Some thousands of Bunnett and Corpe's Shutters have now been put up, without a single complaint of their want of strength or security; and nine years' practical experience (during which they have adopted every real improvement) enables the Patentees to challenge comparison with any others. They will guarantee all Shutters put up by them to keep in order, and last twice as long as any with thin convex laths.

B. and C. also manufacture REVOLVING WOOD SHUTTERS the Patent for which has expired, at the same prices as other makers, but greatly superior, being fitted with their patent raising gear, and proper metallic hinges, without which no shutter can be safe or durable.

BUNNETT and CORPE are likewise Patentees and Manufacturers of METALLIC SASH-BARS, MOULDINGS, &c., IN BRASS, COPPER, OR ZINC, FOR SHOP FRONTS, WINDOWS, SKYLIGHTS, AND VARIOUS OTHER PURPOSES.

Shop-fronts fitted with Iron Shutters, Patent Brass or Zinc Sashes, Plain or Ornamental, handsomely Engraved, Moulded, Stall-board Plates, best Plate Glass, and Internal Brass Fittings of all kinds, superior in quality and workmanship, and lower in price than any other house. Contracts taken in Town or Country.

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ART-UNION OF LONDON: Incorporated by Royal Charter.
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The list for the current year will close on Wednesday next, the 31st instant. Subscribers will receive for each guinea paid, besides the chance of obtaining a work of art at the distribution, a pair of prints, the "Last Embrace," and the "Neapolitan Wedding," engraved by Mr. Charles Rolls and Mr. F. A. Heath respectively, after T. Uwins, R.A., with a set of engravings in outline from seven of the cartoons submitted in competition for the premium of 500*l.* offered by the society for an historical picture.

GEORGE GODWIN, } Hon. Secs.
LEWIS POCOCK, }
4, Trafalgar-square, March 27th, 1847.

THE EXHIBITION OF SELECT SPECIMENS OF ENGLISH MANUFACTURES, on and after the 11th of March, will be OPENED GRATUITOUSLY every day, except Saturday and Sunday, between 11 and 4, at the SOCIETY OF ARTS, Great Room, John-street, Adelphi. TICKETS of ADMISSION and Catalogues may be had of the Members of the Society, of the Exhibitors, and of the undermentioned:—

OXFORD-STREET: Mr. John Mortlock, No. 250; Mr. J. Phillipps, No. 293.—REGENT-STREET: Mr. White, No. 210.—PALL MALL: Messrs. Graves, No. 6; and Messrs. Colnaghi, No. 13.—NEW BOND-STREET: Mr. Prout, No. 118.—OLD BOND-STREET: Mr. J. Cundall, No. 12.—PICCADILLY: Mr. W. Pickering, Bookseller, No. 177.—STRAND: Mr. Milledge, No. 67; Messrs. Greenhill, No. 146; Mr. J. Tennant, No. 149.—FLEET-STREET: Mr. George Bell, No. 186; Messrs. Grant and Griffith, corner of St. Paul's Churchyard, Ludgate-street.

N.B. No Tickets can be had, except by members, direct from the Society's House.

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ENCAUSTIC, VENETIAN, BATH, and other PATENT TILES, and MOSAIC PAVEMENTS, may be obtained at MINTON and Co.'s Warehouse, 2, Albion-place, Surrey side of Blackfriars' Bridge. Also, an assortment of Plain and Ornamental Door Furniture, Slabs and Tiles for Fire-places, &c.

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London, 193*a*, Piccadilly, Feb. 27, 1847.

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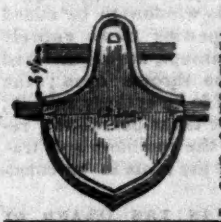

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SMITH'S SUPERIOR GLAZED BROWN STONE SOCKET DRAIN PIPES 2 feet lengths, in various bores, from 2 to 9 inches, patronized by the Right Hon. and Hon. Commissioners of Sewers for the city of Westminster. To be had at the manufactory, 75, Princes-street, Lambeth. A stock of elbows and various shapes always on hand.

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